



# Tarpon Springs Police Department

*Building a Better Future Through Excellence in Policing*



August 2017

## Crime Watch Newsletter

### Elderly, children, pets should not be left in hot car

#### Florida law protects good Samaritan

The Good Samaritan must ensure the vehicle is locked and there is no other reasonable way to free the animal or human inside;

The animal or human is unable to get free on his/her/its own;

The rescuer must have “a good faith and reasonable belief” the dog or human is “in imminent danger of suffering harm;”

The Samaritan must call 911 or contact a law enforcement agency before or immediately after entering the vehicle and must use reasonable force in obtaining entry; and

The Good Samaritan must remain with the animal or human in a nearby, safe location until authorities arrive.



**FROM TARPON  
SPRINGS POLICE DE-  
PARTMENT. BE SAFE.  
DON'T DRINK AND  
DRIVE.**

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## SCHOOL BUS STOP SAFETY

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The following rules have a potential consequence (if not followed) of the school bus driver not seeing the student and placing them in danger of being hit by the school bus:

Arrive at the bus stop five minutes before the bus is scheduled to come. Do not be running late and do not try to get on the bus as it starts to move.

Have all items in your book bag before you leave home so you do not drop anything.

Keep electronics packed away as you are boarding.

NEVER chase after the bus.

NEVER walk to another bus stop.

Wait in an orderly group. Form an orderly line as the bus approaches, with the 1st student in line standing 12 feet away from the road.

When you are getting on the bus and have to cross the road:

Cross 12 feet in front of the bus.

Make sure you can see the driver.

If you drop something, leave it and move to a point out of the Danger Zone. Do not pick it up without getting the attention of and instruction from the bus driver.

When getting off the bus, keep cell phones and electronics packed away.

When you are getting off the bus and have to cross the road:

Walk straight away from the right front of the bus, in the bus driver's full view.

Always be able to see the bus driver (so they can see you).

When unloading at school:

Walk (don't run) straight towards the school.

Stay away from the bus, so your driver can see you.

Keep walking until you get out of the danger zone, 12 feet away from the bus.

When loading at school:

Walk straight towards the bus door and be sure your driver can see you.

Never chase after a moving bus. Once the buses start moving – you should stop moving.

**Never speak to strangers at the bus stop and never get into a car with a stranger.**



Craigslist, eBay, Facebook, OfferUp, Letgo, and many other websites are great tools for finding good deals, but can also be dangerous if not handled wisely. Besides the possibility of scams and fraudulent transactions, there are also isolated incidents of buyers and sellers of internet transactions that end up being victims of crimes like robbery, theft, battery and assault when they meet in person to complete the transaction.

To help citizens complete these transactions safely, the Tarpon Springs Police Department (444 S. Huey Ave.) highly recommends meeting in a highly visible, public place and is offering up its lobby as a "safe zone" for buyers and sellers of internet transactions to meet to complete their deals. People do not need to ask permission or make an appointment to use the lobby for this purpose. Weapons are NOT allowed in the police department.



## Top Tips for Fire Safety

Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.

Test smoke alarms every month. ...

Talk with all family members about a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.

If a fire occurs in your home, GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL FOR HELP