

MAKING A POLICE REPORT



WHY MAKE A POLICE REPORT

You've just become the victim of a crime and you're not sure what to do. You may ask yourself if you should even report the incident or not. Often times, people simply don't make a report because they know that in their situation the chance of catching someone may be slim. We urge you to still make these reports no matter how small or insignificant the crime may seem to you. The information provided to the police department is used to allocate resources to areas that have a pattern of crimes. Without your information our information is not as good as it could be. The better our information is the more likely we are to catch people which helps everyone in the long run.

REPORTED INFORMATION WILL BE USED IN SEVERAL WAYS:

- Establish the location of the crime.
- Establish the suspected or known time of the crime.
- Reveal a pattern of crime or specific tactic used.
- Help link suspects known or seen from other related cases.
- Help officers know who to look for or what type of things to look for when on patrol.
- Determine where special focus by the police department is needed.
- Use this information to create solid plans for these special focus areas.

WHAT INFORMATION IS HELPFUL

Information that is helpful for the police department to have when coming up with strategies to handle crimes:

- **When did the crime occur?** If the exact time is not known, the time that you believe the crime occurred.
- **How did the crime occur?** Did the suspect break a window, pry a door or simply find an open door or window?
- What was taken?
- **A description of any suspect you might have seen.**
- **Serial numbers for anything with a serial number.** These are checked by a Pawn Secretary and Detectives. In addition, if the value of the items(s) is over \$500 the serial number is listed on the National Database.

HOW TO MAKE A REPORT

- For emergencies or crimes in progress **call 911.**
- **Call 801-799-3000** if you require an officer to respond but it isn't an emergency.
- **Make a report online at slcpd.com.** Our online reporting options are generally good for cases that have no suspect information and no injuries but require a police report for insurance purposes.

Advantages to online reporting:

- You can report it when you have time and don't have to wait for an officer to arrive or call you.
- You can print out the report if needed, right from your home to keep for your records.
- You can add more property or details to the report at any time.
- Online reports will be reviewed by a detective just like a regular report.

FAQ'S

What if an incident happened in another city?

You cannot complete an online police report if a crime took place outside of Salt Lake City Police Department's jurisdiction. Call the police department for that city.

What is a known suspect?

A known suspect is when you or someone else knows the person or where to find the person who committed the crime or the license plate number of the vehicle the suspect(s) were in.
