



**Robert C. Haas**  
*Police Commissioner*

# *City of Cambridge* *Police Department*

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[www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

**Robert W. Healy**  
*City Manager*

December 5, 2007

**David J. Degou**  
*Superintendent*

Mr. Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

**Michael D. Giacoppo**  
*Superintendent*

**Robert F. Ames**  
*Deputy Superintendent*

**Re: "Text-a-Tip" Follow Up Status Report (Council Order #2,  
dated 6/25/07)**

**Christopher J. Burke**  
*Deputy Superintendent*  
*Quality Control*

Sir:

**Timothy F. McCusker**  
*Deputy Superintendent*

In addition to giving you an update on where we stand with respect to "text-a-tip" capabilities, I am also using this opportunity to inform you of the recent updates that the department has made as it relates to new technology initiatives. All of these technology updates are designed to greatly enhance the police department's abilities to provide broader capacity in communicating and providing to the community in a more real-time basis. Many of these enhancements are a direct result of the feedback we have been getting back from various community meetings held this past summer.

**Lester Sullivan**  
*Deputy Superintendent*

**J. Michael Walsh**  
*Deputy Superintendent*

**Steven A. Williams**  
*Deputy Superintendent*

**Christina Giacobbe**  
*Director of Planning,  
Budget & Personnel*

Members of the City Council had requested information regarding our ability to update the department website in an effort to notify residents of crime occurring in the city. In recent months, we have researched various technologies to support these initiatives. Therefore, it is necessary to summarize these efforts and our continued efforts in improving technology to support the goals of the City Council and the city administration.

**Officer Frank Pasquarello**  
*Aide to the Commissioner*

The department has recently updated the website to include additional information regarding neighborhood crime. This link can be found on the police department homepage at [www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org) on the right hand side of the home page called Neighborhood Crime Log. This link provides information on neighborhood profiles, updates of crime occurring in the neighborhoods as well as information regarding patterns, arrests and prevention tips. In addition, residents can email the neighborhood sergeant to ask questions, pass along information and discuss additional concerns in the community. The department will continue to update these neighborhood profiles and occurrences on a daily basis. We will continue to find ways to improve providing information and access to information as we continue to develop our website.

A new initiative will be introduced in the department over the next few weeks. The department has researched technology to support "Text a Tip". This web-based tool is utilized for the department to send notifications to residents that have subscribed to receive information pertaining to neighborhood meetings, crime alerts and updates. In addition, residents will have the capability to send in anonymous text messages regarding crimes that have occurred or information of suspicious behaviors throughout the community. This information will then be utilized to investigate suspicious or illegal behavior in an effort to improve the quality of life for residents and visitors in the community. This is a safe and confidential tool that will allow residents an opportunity to provide information that they may be reluctant to provide if there was no opportunity for confidentiality. In terms of the "Text a Tip" feature, this will be in addition to the anonymous drug-tip hotline (617-349-3359) and the Anonymous Crime Tip E-mail (accessible through our website).

Unlike the technology that was established for the City of Boston, the technology we are pursuing as the added feature of sending informational bulletins and crime alerts. We are planning on integrating these additional capabilities along with the other means we are currently using both through our website and the list serves we presently keep on file. The new technology is not only broken down by neighborhoods, but it also has a separate section for the business community. The technology is subscriber driven, which will alleviate the nightmare of trying to keep lists current. Individuals can self-select what neighborhoods for which they want to receive bulletins and/or alerts, and can also deselect themselves if they do not want such notifications.

We have just acquired a purchase order to proceed with the project and we will begin to set up the infrastructure to support the technology. Our plan is to have this up and running in the next few months. The department has planned on a marketing campaign to educate residents and employees on how the system will work, what it entails and how to subscribe to the service.

I look forward to your thoughts and any additional suggestions you may have on how we can continue to work on improving access to information throughout the community. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your assistance and support on these initiatives'.

Sincerely,

Robert C. Haas  
Police Commissioner

# New Resource: Online Crime Log

[www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

- Neighborhood pages have been established with their own specific crime logs.
- Readers can learn about the types of criminal incidents that are happening around the area they live in.
- The information contained on the neighborhood pages is gathered and developed by the Crime Analysis Unit. It is then edited for public view and published on the site.
- Tips on how to look out for and prevent crime from happening are also provided.

# How to Access the Logs

[www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

City of Cambridge Police Department



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## Our Mission



The Cambridge Police Department is committed to the enforcement of laws and preservation of order that protect the rights and property of every person within the City of Cambridge. Our mission is to provide the highest quality of police service and to impact crime, and its associated elements, through the utilization of new and proven crime prevention strategies and problem-solving partnerships with our community.

Click here



Cambridge Police Department  
5 Western Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Main Telephone Number  
(Non-Emergency): 617-349-3300

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## News & Events

- Neighborhood Crime Information - New Format with Daily Updates
- Arrest Made After String of Similar Street Robberies - 11/14/07
- Community Alert - Inman/Harrington - 11/7/07
- Neighborhood Death Ruled Not Suspicious - 11/7/07
- Alewife T and Danehy Park Area Robberies - 11/6/07
- Gun Arrest in North Cambridge - 10/24/07
- Recent Larcenies from Motor Vehicles

## Community Quick Links

- Community Alerts: Get police alerts emailed directly to your in-box!
- Neighborhood Sergeants Program
- Most Wanted List
- Neighborhood Profiles  
Read the most current CPD information on your neighborhood.
- Missing & Exploited Children

## Publications

- **Neighborhood Profiles**
- Current Annual Crime Report
- All Crime Reports
  - 2007
  - 2006
  - 2005
  - 2004
  - 2003
  - 2002
  - 2001
  - Prior to 2001
- Business District Profiles

## Neighborhood Profiles

The information contained on the neighborhood pages below was gathered and developed by the Crime Analysis Unit of the Cambridge Police. It was then edited for public view and published on the website by the Public Information Office. Feedback on how we may be able to improve these bulletins is always welcome. Please send all comments you may have by clicking here.

- ❖ East Cambridge  
Update: 12/3
- ❖ MIT Area  
Update: 11/27
- ❖ Inman/Harrington  
Update: 11/26
- ❖ Area 4  
Update: 12/3
- ❖ Cambridgeport  
Update: 11/26
- ❖ Mid-Cambridge  
Update: 12/3
- ❖ Riverside  
Update: 12/3
- ❖ Agassiz  
Update: 11/27
- ❖ Peabody/Neighborhood 9  
Update: 11/26
- ❖ West Cambridge  
Update: 12/3
- ❖ North Cambridge  
Update: 12/3
- ❖ Cambridge Highlands  
Update: 10/17
- ❖ Strawberry Hill  
Update: 11/27

Click on your neighborhood



# Area 4 Crime Log

## Neighborhood 4 - Area 4

- [Area 4 Crime Statistics](#)
- [Click Here to E-Mail the Area 4 Neighborhood Sergeant](#)

### Area 4 Crime Log

#### **GPS Theft Arrest 12/1 3:14 pm Norfolk St & Suffolk St**

CPD detectives noticed two males acting suspiciously in the area of St Mary's Church. They were looking up and down the street and when no one was visible on foot or in a car, one of the males approached a van in the parking lot, but was interrupted by a female who exited the Church. The two were watched for about 25 mins until one received the go ahead nod from the other and took a brick out from under his sweatshirt and ran toward the van, smashing the window. The two were stopped as they walked by the unmarked cruiser and an Alpine GPS was found in the suspect's sweatshirt.

#### **Drug Arrest 11/30/07, 8:37 pm Scouting Way & Broadway**

Two people were arrested after they were pulled over for driving the wrong way down a one-way street. When talking with the driver, the passenger could be seen trying to conceal something in his waistband. The passenger, a juvenile, was found to have a baggie of weed and \$360 dollars along with a jewelers scale in his pocket. The driver was also found to have two baggies of marijuana on him. More marijuana was found in the trunk.

#### **Drugs 11/23/07, 8:32 pm Bishop Allen Dr & Columbia St**

Officers saw two people sitting on a curb between parked cars. One suspect seemed to be concealing something when she noticed the officers approaching. The other suspect discarded a rolled up one dollar bill that upon looking at it had a white residue on it. The suspects also produced other drugs, including Adderal.

#### **11/16/07 1:29am, Street Robbery Arrest Harvard St. & Scouting Way**

An arrest was made of two individuals after they robbed the victim of \$40, claiming to have a weapon. The suspects were stopped at Norfolk St & Broadway where they were frisked for weapons and the victim's \$40 was found. The victim was able to positively ID both parties.

#### **11/9/07 11:01pm, Broadway & Columbia St DRUG ARREST**

The Special Investigations Unit was conducting surveillance and saw what they believed was a drug deal. They stopped the motor vehicle and upon searching the suspect, he was found to have a baggie of cocaine in his shirt pocket. Suspect was arrested, however the

Much like what the *Cambridge Chronicle* does, the neighborhood pages will have crime logs.

The crime log will be updated frequently for each neighborhood.

While not every criminal incident in a neighborhood will be posted, those that would be a concern to the public will be included.

The crime log will follow a blog-like style as new/updated information is added.

# Other Information

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The homepage also has a section for “News & Events.”

This has links to crime stories that concern more than one neighborhood, or are particularly news-worthy.