

Crime Prevention and the 2010 Census

The 2010 U.S. Census is underway and this is a good time to remind residents some crime prevention tips regarding the Census.

There will be up to 140,000 Census workers in the United States this year and they will be gathering information in an effort to account for every person in the U.S. as well as household information. The information they are gathering by address includes name, age, gender, race, and other relevant information. The Census is important as the data is used to determine the allocation of federal funds and determining the number of Congressional representatives. Households are required by law to submit to a request for information by the Census Bureau.

Unfortunately, these facts are used by people committing fraud and they prey on citizens who are willing to give out more information than they need to. During the Census residents may be contacted by mail, telephone or visited by a Census worker. Be assured that a legitimate Census worker WILL NOT ask you for your Social Security Number, bank account information, credit card information, or a donation.

- If a Census worker knocks on your door they should have an official government badge marked with their name, a handheld device for data entry, a confidentiality notice, and they may have a Census Bureau canvas bag. You may ask to see their badge and photo identification for verification. We recommend you do not invite them into your home, as with anyone you do not know.
- The only financial information a Census worker will ask you is a salary range.
- Census workers will never contact anyone by email.

If you have questions regarding the validity of the worker you may contact our Regional Census Center at (816)-994-2000.

We encourage the residents to always contact the Police Department if they notice ANY suspicious persons, vehicles, or activities at 636-537-3000.

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Police Officer Kim Huffman

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