



# Jersey Village Star

## Making Home Improvements?

Being a homeowner comes along with many expenses. One of which is home improvement repairs and remodels. Everyone appreciates a well maintained home; however it is easy to overlook the necessary permitting requirements. Pulling a permit is not only an ordinance requirement, but provides another level of protection for the homeowner. Contractors are required to provide proof of state licenses necessary to perform specific types of work. In addition, the city building official will perform inspections on the work being done. Permits can be obtained by the homeowner or the contractor, but keep in mind that it is

ultimately the homeowner's responsibility to be certain that a permit is obtained prior to the commencement of work. Some types of permits include, but are not limited to the following: Repair or replacement of fences, roofs, siding, driveways, the installation of swimming pools and irrigation systems, any type of remodel: including but not limited to bathrooms, kitchens, room additions, and the installation of building sheds or storage buildings. For further information on permit requirements please contact the permit desk at 713-466-2110 and as always, thank you for maintaining the community.

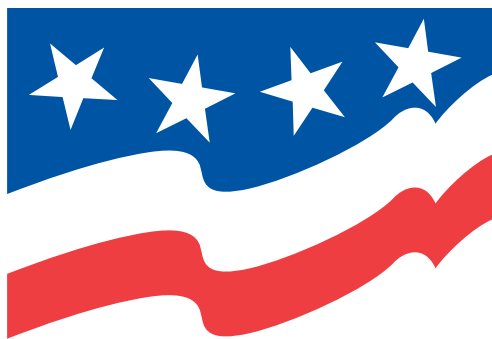


### Statistics for October 2011 JV Police Department

Calls for Service	1230
Vehicle Theft	1
Aggravated Assault	0
Burglary, Business	0
Burglary, Residence	9
Burglary, Vehicle	5
Disturbance	37
Narcotics, Felony	1
Minor Accidents	150
Major Accidents	48
Alarms	121
Suspicious Person	185
Traffic Control	4
Traffic Hazard	24

### JV Fire Department

Building Fires	2
Auto Fires	0
Other Fires	5
Rescue/EMS Incidents	70
Hazardous Conditions	2
Service Calls	4
Smoke or Odor Calls	0
False Alarms/Cancelled Enroute	30
Total Ambulance Transports	46




Emergency Call	911
Main Number	713.466.2100
City Manager	713.466.2108
City Secretary	713.466.2102
Fire Department	713.466.2130
Police Department	713.466.2123
Permits	713.466.2110
Public Works	713.466.2133
Code Enforcement & Animal Control	713.466.2129
Water Billing	713.466.2111
Municipal Court	713.466.2124
Golf Course	713.896.0900
City Pool	832.467.1032
JV Star	713.466.2108



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For more information visit  
[www.jerseyvillage.info](http://www.jerseyvillage.info)

## Sgt. Sandy's Corner

### Holiday Safety

By: Sgt. S. Joachim

As the holiday season approaches we should take a minute to think about safety during the holidays. Here are some tips on how to celebrate safely this holiday season:

#### Traveling

- ★Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- ★Ask a neighbor to watch you home, pick up your mail and newspapers, and park in the driveway from time to time.

#### Out For the Evening

- ★Turn on the lights, a radio, or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- ★Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave.
- ★Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.
- ★If your Christmas tree is visible from any doors or windows keep blinds or

curtains closed when you are not home. Try to keep gifts locked in a closet or attic until Christmas Eve.

#### Shopping

- ★Stay alert and be aware of what is going on around you.
- ★Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- ★Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- ★Keep all credit card receipts and copies when you use your card.
- ★Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps.
- ★Put wallets in an inside coat or front pants pocket.
- ★Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.
- ★Have your keys ready when leaving a store. Always make sure you know

where you parked your vehicle and have those keys in your hand. They can be used as a weapon.

★When you intend on shopping at night, be sure you have a friend come along. If you do find yourself alone, ask the security guard to walk you to your car.

#### After Christmas

- ★Do not put any empty Christmas present boxes outside. Break them down and dispose of them on your trash collection day.
- ★Don't let children leave new Christmas gifts, such as bicycles or electric cars outside. If you do have to leave large toys outside, try to keep them in an area not visible from the street.

**Our hope is for each and every citizen of Jersey Village to enjoy a safe Holiday season with good fortune in the New Year.**



## Fire Safety for the Holiday's

The Holiday's season is upon us and we need to be thinking safety. Here are safety rules you can follow:

#### Preventing Christmas Tree Fires

##### ★ Selecting a Tree for the Holiday

Needles on fresh trees should be green and hard to pull back from the branches, and the needle should not break if the tree has been freshly cut. The trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground. If many needles fall off, the tree has been cut too long, has probably dried out, and is a fire hazard.

##### ★ Caring for Your Tree

Do not place your tree close to a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by flame or sparks. Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times.

#### Holiday Lights

##### ★ Maintain Your Holiday Lights

Inspect holiday lights each year for frayed wires, bare spots, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before putting them up. **Do Not Overload Electrical Outlets.**

Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe

##### ★ Do Not Leave Holiday Lights on Unattended

#### Holiday Decorations

★ **Use Only Nonflammable Decorations**  
All decorations should be nonflammable or flame-retardant and placed away from heat vents.

★ **Never Put Wrapping Paper in a Fireplace.** It can result in a very large fire, throwing off dangerous sparks and embers and may result in a chimney fire.

##### ★ Artificial Christmas Trees

If you are using an artificial tree, make sure it is flame retardant.

#### Candle Care

##### ★ Avoid Using Lit Candles

Make sure they are in stable holders and place them where they cannot be easily knocked down. Never leave the house with candles burning.

##### ★ Never Put Lit Candles on a Tree

Do not go near a Christmas tree with an open flame - candles, lighters or matches.

Finally, as in every season, have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, test them monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times. Know when and how to call for help. And remember to practice your home escape plan.