



# 911 Public Safety Newsletter

December 2023

## Keep your home safe this holiday



Are you heading out to see family and friends this holiday season? For many it's the best part of the holiday season. Before you rush out the door, make sure to secure your home.

- **Lock up.** This may seem like an obvious rule of safety, but sometimes the most obvious rules are the ones we forget to follow. Don't assume your doors and windows are shut and locked. Double check them! If you don't already have deadbolts on your doors, you may want to consider investing in some.
- **Avoid posting your whereabouts on social media.** I'm sure you have seen posts from friends and relatives on vacation. Some people post everything on Facebook—even if it's just a photo of lunch. It's only natural that you would want to post a picture or two on Facebook or Twitter sharing your holiday fun, but wait until after your return to post your pictures.
- **Put lights on a timer, smart plug, or app.** If you have outside holiday lights, put them on an automatic timer when you go out of town. You can set the timer so that your lights go on at a certain hour each night, making it appear as if you're home. You might also consider setting a few indoor lights on timers, too.
- **Don't hide a key.** Having a spare house key is a must. However, it's crucial to be careful about where you store that key. Don't leave it in a fake rock or place it under your doormat. Criminals know all the good hiding places. Instead, leave a key with a trusted friend or neighbor, that way you'll have access to it when needed.
- **Ask someone to pick up your mail, or stop your mail.** There is another benefit about having friendly neighbors. They can pick up your mail and newspapers. Having newspapers or packages piled up on your doorstep might as well be a sign saying, "Hey everyone, I'm not home." You can also easily temporarily stop mail delivery on the U.S. Postal Service website.
- **Hide any Christmas gifts.** Of course, you want to keep gifts out of sight from children, but you also want to make sure gifts are hidden from a potential burglar. Putting pretty wrapped gifts under the Christmas tree looks nice, but it's also an open invitation for a burglar. Try to keep your Christmas tree, with gifts underneath, away from windows or other places with a view.

The holiday season is a joyous time of the year. Don't let criminals ruin it.

## Upcoming events



### Christmas toy drive

**Time:** 11 a.m. to midnight  
**Date:** Tuesday, 12/12  
**Location:** Lazy Dog Restaurant  
238 Gibson Drive

Bring joy to a child this Christmas. Drop off an unwrapped gift and help Roseville kids in need this holiday season.

You can also drop off a toy at the **Roseville PD lobby, 12/1-12/15, (Tuesday-Friday) 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**



### Neighborhood Santa

**Time:** Begins at 6 p.m.  
**Date:** Tuesday - Thursday,  
12/5-12/14.)

**Location:** Various routes

Santa Claus is coming to town! He doesn't want to risk getting sick before Christmas so all visits are weather permitting. (Look for schedule updates due to weather on the [Roseville Parks, Recreation & Events Facebook page](#) by 5:00pm each evening.) Check out Santa's route by searching "[Neighborhood Santa](#)," on the City website.

## What is myRSVL?

This free app is an innovative tool to allow residents in reporting a wide range of local, non-emergency issues directly to the City.



**In an emergency always call 9-1-1. Do not use myRSVL**

Use [myRSVL](#) to find information, request non-emergency services or report non-emergency issues. Visit: [www.roseville.ca.us/residents/my\\_r\\_s\\_v\\_l](http://www.roseville.ca.us/residents/my_r_s_v_l)





The holiday season is well underway. Unfortunately, scammers don't take holiday breaks. Consumers need to be even more vigilant at protecting their money and personal information. Here are some common scams and how to avoid them from [Forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com).

1. **Ads on social media platforms**

One fast-growing online shopping scheme involves advertisements on social media sites like Facebook and Instagram. Consumers purchased a product or service through an ad on a social media site but never receive what they bought.

**Solution:** Find the company online at its real IP address. Look for a similar product on a more trusted site like Amazon or at big retailers.



2. **Package delivery theft**

About 18% of people polled by Security.org said a package that was stolen from them contained a gift for someone else. Those packages tend to

contain more valuable items that may be harder to replace-especially in time for holiday giving, the survey found.

**Solution:** Have parcels delivered to a more secure place like an Amazon locker or your office, or to a friend or family member who can be present for delivery. If the package contains an expensive item, you might also consider paying a bit extra for shipping insurance or to require a signature for delivery.

3. **Gift card scams**

Gift cards are a convenient way to give during the holidays. Watch for outlandish fees that can add to the purchase price or drain your card's value.

In one common credit card scam, someone claims to be a family member or friend who needs money and insists that you give it to them in the form of a gift card.

**Solution:** If someone demands to be paid with a gift card, assume it's a scam and refuse, the FTC says. When you do purchase gift cards, try to do it in person at your financial institution, a grocery store or another retailer to ensure they are legitimate. But be mindful of the fees. The fee amount should be printed on the packaging, or the retailer should be able to tell you when asked.

4. **Charity scams**

Americans tend to give more to charities during the holidays, when they are feeling generous, or when they want to get tax deductions before the end of the year. Scammers try to take advantage of this through fake online charities. Some call you by phone to request a donation or thank you for a

nonexistent donation and then ask for the payment.

**Solution:** It's best to stick with well-known charities or groups you have successfully donated to in the past. You can also research any charity online through websites like Charity Navigator or use the [IRS tax-exempt organization search](https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/charity-exempt-organizations). Do not give money to anyone who calls unsolicited and demands immediate payment. A legitimate charity will take your contribution at any time. And do not donate money by gift card, cryptocurrency, or wire transfer.



5. **Vacation rental scams**

Travel scams are common during this time of year as families seek out vacation spots to celebrate the holidays together. Fraudsters will post beautiful rental properties online that don't actually exist or market a "free" vacation that actually comes at a hefty price. Once you show interest, they often try to get you off the app to communicate with them directly and submit payment, reducing traceability so it will be difficult to get your money back.

**Solution:** Always book vacations through known travel sites like Expedia, Priceline and VRBO. Keep the conversation and transaction within the app. You can also book your trip with a travel credit card, which offers more protections, and consider travel insurance in case there are delays or cancellations during your trip.

Meet Roseville's newest officers



**Officer Jeffrey Selvy** comes to RPD with three years of experience at Galt PD, where he was a member of the Honor Guard, Mobile Field Force, Detectives, POP, and UAS Operator. Jeff chose to work in law enforcement because he wanted to be the change and to give back to the community. Some of Jeff's hobbies include backpacking, video games, cooking, reading, and martial arts.



**Officer Calvin Gleason** comes to RPD with six years of experience with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office. Officer Gleason has always been drawn to law enforcement and sought a fun and exciting job where he gets to work with great people. He enjoys spending time outdoors and spending time with his family. He has two young children, ages three and one, who keep him very busy.



**Officer Christopher Cory** comes to RPD with nine years of experience (Patrol, School Resource Officer/ Investigations, Sergeant) from the Placerville PD. Officer Cory chose a career in law enforcement to help people and make a better and safer community. He enjoys watching/playing sports, woodworking, and watching his kids play sports.

**Roseville Police Department**  
1051 Junction Blvd.  
(916) 774-5000  
[roseville.ca.us/police](https://www.roseville.ca.us/police)



**Community Events  
& Neighborhood Watch**  
[PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us](mailto:PDCommunityServices@roseville.ca.us)  
(916) 774-5050



Please send comments or suggestions to: [pdcommunityservices@roseville.ca.us](mailto:pdcommunityservices@roseville.ca.us) or call (916) 774-5050.  
The "9-1-1" is published for City of Roseville's residents by the Community Relations Division of the Roseville Police Department.

