



CURTIN

Neighbourhood Watch Group

September
2009



AFP
AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE

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Rise in robberies, fall in assaults across capital

Latest statistics show crime in the capital has increased by about 5 per cent on the same time last year, with property damage, burglary and robberies all up. But there has been a dramatic drop in reported sexual assaults and smaller falls in weapons offences and assaults.

Overall, nearly 10,500 offences were reported to police in the three months to July, an increase of more than 5 per cent over the corresponding quarter in 2008.

The figures for the financial year show a marginal overall rise compared with the 2007-08 period.

The number of robberies for the three months was 76, double the number of the same period last year.

ACT Police Minister Simon Corbell said while any increase was of concern, he believed the figures could be a result of police action.

“Any increase is a concern, but it's balanced by the fact we've got more police on the streets so more of these offences are being detected and followed up by police,” he said.

Mr Corbell said recent action taken by police as part of Operation Tondo had led to a number of charges being laid.

He said generally the figures indicated crime in the ACT was at relatively low levels.

Other statistics tabled in the Assembly yesterday showed:

- The highest level of clearances on sexual offenders in at least five years;
- The highest level of clearances on abductions in at least five years;
- The lowest levels of the most serious assaults in two years;
- The highest level of car theft in three years;
- The highest level of burglary in three years.

Figures also showed the highest rate of car accidents causing injury in four years. Police were alerted to nearly two accidents a day.

The result follows continued high levels of drink-driving resulting in record numbers of Canberrans being caught in the past financial year.

Mr Corbell said police would continue to target drivers with education campaigns and increased presence on the roads.

“Canberrans need to understand that there is a real problem in our community, there are too many deaths and too many injuries and police will continue to crack down on this issue significantly.”

Source: Canberra Times 19 August 2009

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Crime Statistics:

Crime statistics are deleted from the website at the request of the AFP - they are available on hard copies distributed to all residents of the suburb.

Voluntary work – some interesting information

The contribution voluntary work makes to the community is substantial. Voluntary work meets needs, provides opportunities for democratic participation, personal development and recreation and helps to establish and strengthen social networks and cohesion.

According to the results of an Australian Bureau of Statistics Survey of Voluntary Work, in 2006, 5.2 million people (34% of the adult Australian population) participated in some form of voluntary work. These volunteers contributed 713 million hours to the community by participating in many different forms of voluntary work. The types of activities most frequently reported by volunteers were fundraising, preparing and serving food, teaching or providing information, administration, and management.

The ACT and Queensland had the highest proportion of volunteers in 2006, with 38% of these populations volunteering.

Overall, 32% of men and 36% of women were volunteers.
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, 4441.0 – Voluntary Work, Australia, 2006

Australian Taxation Office—door-to-door scam warning

The Assistant Treasurer, the Hon. Nick Sherry has issued a warning to Australians of a suspected door-to-door scam by people claiming to be consultants from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

The alleged bogus consultants ask people to sign up to a fictional government program promising financial incentives, including a reduction in taxes.

In return for signing up, scammers will ask you for personal information such as credit card information or banking details.

Remember scammers can use your personal information to steal your money and identity. Don't give out personal information about your credit card, banking details or superannuation fund unless you can verify that you are giving it to a trusted source.

Visit SCAMwatch to learn how to protect yourself against identity theft, superannuation and door-to-door scams.

Anyone approached about accessing or investing in superannuation should contact the ATO on 13 28 61 and report any suspicious activities.

You should also call the ATO if you are concerned about the legitimacy of callers or the identity of an ATO officer.

Anyone who has given personal information to an illegitimate source should immediately report it to their credit card provider, bank or superannuation fund.

Protect yourself

- If someone comes to your door, ask to see their identification.
- Never agree to anything without reading all the terms and conditions very carefully.
- Don't agree to any offer involving a significant amount of money, time or commitment—seek independent advice first.
- If you are interested in what the door-to-door person has to offer, take the time to find out more about their business and their offer.

Report

You can report this scam to the ACCC Infocentre on 1300 302 502 or visit the *Report a scam* page in SCAMwatch. Warn your friends, family, colleagues and neighbours about the scam.

Source:

<http://www.scamwatch.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/767366>

Please assist our police by reporting all suspicious activity to: CRIME STOPPERS use: 1800 333 000.

**For police attendance use: 131 444.
But, for all life-threatening emergencies use: “0 0 0”**