

Senior Facts and Myths

Fact: By the year 2017 seniors will outnumber our juvenile population.

Myth: You have to be missing 24 hours before considered a missing person.

Fact: Seniors are the most intelligent individuals our country has ever seen. They have put man on the moon, invented the computer technology, gave us television, etc

Myth: Anyone can use a handicapped placard.

Fact: Baby Boomers have contributed to the growing crime rate.



**ORANGE COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

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**ORANGE COUNTY
SHERIFF**

Sheriff Jerry L. Demings

SENIOR CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS



Did you know that the fastest growing segment of the population in both the US and Canada is the centenarians? Centenarians are people who live to be 100 years old or more. Thanks to both the post-World War II baby boom and advances in medicine, the senior population is rapidly growing. The Orange County Sheriff's Office recognizes this and as a result, offers a variety of crime prevention programs geared towards seniors and their needs.

Senior Abuse

Senior abuse can take several different forms: physical, sexual, psychological, exploitation (material or financial), neglect or self neglect. Check for senior abuse identifiers and assist victims once senior abuse has been detected. Only 1 in 5 senior abuses are reported. Under Florida Statue 415, everyone is a mandatory reporter if they see/assume abuse. To report senior abuse, call 1-800-96 ABUSE. An abuse report can be done anonymously. OCSO offers presentations on senior abuse. Education is essential when 80% of senior abuse is from a family member. In 2010, Florida had close to 30,000 reports of abuse on the average, which are 82 incidents per day, seven days a week. 2.1 million seniors in America become victims of senior abuse.

9-1-1

free cell phones our issued to our senior citizens who cannot afford one. The phone is for emergency purposes only and cannot be used to call family and friends. All phones that are given to the senior community have been donated. These phones are checked, cleaned and issued. If interested in donating or receiving a phone they can be picked up at our main facility located at 2500 West Colonial Dr. Please call in advance to set up an appointment at 407-254-7375.



Senior Academy

This six week academy is available to all who live in Orange County. The underlying objectives for the senior academy are: reducing the prospect of seniors becoming victimized through educational awareness program and reducing seniors' fears of criminal victimization.

This academy is strictly for personal enrichment and doesn't qualify for any type of position within the Orange County Sheriffs Office. The Senior Academy is free to the community.

Senior Presentations

The Orange County Sheriffs Office has recognized that the best defense to prevent crime is through education. Senior Crime Prevention offers the following classes; senior safety, senior frauds and scams, senior identity theft, senior overview and senior medical identity theft. To make this easy for the senior community the Senior Crime Prevention advocate comes to your location to present these valuable free classes around your schedules.



Combat Auto Theft (C.A.T.)

After a Combat Auto Theft application has been completed, a sticker is issued and placed in the rear window of your vehicle. If the vehicle is spotted out in the community between 1AM and 5AM, that

sticker gives law enforcement the authority to stop and search the vehicle to see if it is stolen. Many stolen vehicles have been recovered thru the C.A.T. program. Combat Auto Theft is a free community program.

Senior Fingerprinting

An electronic fingerprint machine is used to capture senior fingerprints and photo. This information is then printed and given to the senior to keep with their personal information. This information is not kept in the Sheriff's Office archives. Senior fingerprinting could be a valuable tool in case of a missing senior and is free to the senior community.

Triad

This program began in 1989 and is part of the National Sheriffs Association. Triad is a symbol of unity between the Sheriff/Law Enforcement, State Attorney, and the Commission on Aging to improve services to our seniors in Orange County. Triad's role is to focus on crime and security issues as related to seniors; suggest and develop programs benefiting the senior community. Through this cooperative effort, seniors' quality of life would be enhanced.

Seniors and Law Enforcement Working Together (S.A.L.T.)

Senior volunteers work with law enforcement to identify issues within the senior community. S.A.L.T. volunteers also assist with problem solving and implementing education to their peers. National polls indicate that crime and the fear of crime severely impact seniors.

Silver Alert

Like the Amber alert for missing children, the Silver Alert is a statewide alert system for the rapid dissemination of information regarding a missing person aged 62 or older or a person with special needs who is considered endangered or believed to be suffering from a type of cognitive impairment. The missing senior had to leave in a vehicle (not on foot) in order to begin the process of Silver Alert. When a Silver Alert is initiated, there will be notifications posted on the highways, radio, and television.



Project Safe Return

The Alzheimer's Association Safe Return bracelet is a nationwide identification, support and enrollment program working at the community level. Safe Return provides assistance whether a person becomes lost locally or far from home.