

# FINDERS-KEEPERS

## Your Department's Quest to Keep You Safe

As a law enforcement officer, there's nothing better than being able to respond to an emergency and find that the services you render are worthwhile to the person that has summonsed your assistance. Knowing that your speedy response prevented possible additional violence and/or damage, further injury, or even death makes this job's rewards priceless. But, there's nothing more disheartening than attempting a speedy response and not being able to find the location you were dispatched to. Many times, we end up being the first person with access to any scene and, all we can think is, "...the clock is ticking..."

What I have found more in this community than in any other in which I have served is that many of the homes where I am dispatched are very, very difficult to find. Some have visible, identifying numbers posted, but several DO NOT. And, many of the ones with posted numbers reference the home's lot number and not the street address. The discrepancy there is that 911 systems CANNOT place lot numbers- they operate solely off of bona-fide street addresses. So, the officer on duty ends up being sent to an address that he or she has to painstakingly search for while knowing their help is needed not just now, but *right* now.

So, today, I am petitioning all who reside in this wonderful community we serve to assist us in a project we have light-heartedly decided to refer to as "Finders Keepers". This project has been dubbed "Finders Keepers" because, in the event of an emergency, if we can readily FIND you, we can put forth our best effort to KEEP you from hurt, harm, or danger. The Game Plan to carry out this mission will be detailed in announcements posted at every public access location and handouts disseminated by Securitas personnel at the Main Security Gate. Thank you all for joining us in this endeavor to serve you to the utmost.

# FINDERS KEEPERS

## Game Plan to Keep You Safe

- ✓ **If it's not already posted, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE make the effort to make your HOUSE NUMBER (not lot number) visible and in compliance with Lake Royale Ordinances. Ordinance Section 3-5: All property shall post the physical address numbers for the property either beside the driveway or on the front of the residence or camper with numbers at least (3) three inches in height and CLEARLY visible from the street.**
- ✓ **The next time you drive or walk up to your house, determine if you can read- or even see- what you have posted. If you can't read or see it from the street, chances are, we can't either.**
- ✓ **One month from the publication of the initial article in the Royale Reporter, your Police Department will begin a systematic canvass of each and every street within Lake Royale. Every address that still cannot be identified as outlined in the above ordinance will receive a friendly reminder in the form of a door hanger or mailbox flag on days not expected to be subject to inclement weather.**
- ✓ **One month following the date that hard-to-find homes receive the friendly written reminder, we're hoping that every resident will have put forth the effort to be in compliance with Lake Royale Ordinance Section 3-5. If not, however, the homeowners that still are not in compliance will be subject to citation. Note that if any citations are issued for this violation, a court appearance is MANDATORY because city/territory ordinance violations are classified as misdemeanors.**