

## —NEWS RELEASE — Chicago Police Department

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## **Chicago Police Offer Halloween Safety Tips**

Several Chicago Police Districts to Host Haunted Houses or Offer Safe Trick-or-Treat Options for Youth

CHICAGO – The Chicago Police Department is reminding parents, adults and children to observe some simple, common-sense safety tips while trick-or-treating this Halloween. One of the safest ways to celebrate is to attend a sponsored, supervised event. In addition to sponsored events at local police Districts, many community centers, churches and schools sponsor family-friendly Halloween events. If children will be trick-or-treating outside planned, sponsored events, the following safety tips will help ensure a safe and enjoyable time for all:

- Trick-or-treat activities should be limited to daylight hours in familiar neighborhoods. Parents or guardians should accompany small children at all times.
- Children should dress in light-colored costumes or have reflectors placed on dark clothing.
  Painted make-up is considered safer than a mask and is less restrictive to a child's vision.
- Accept sealed or wrapped treats only. All items should be inspected by an adult before allowing children to partake.
- Never enter abandoned buildings, deserted areas or other places which are out of the public view. Children should be reminded not to talk to strangers and never enter a stranger's house or vehicle.
- Obey all traffic rules, such as crossing streets at corners and not between cars in the middle of the block. Motorists should exercise extra caution when driving on neighborhood streets and pay particular attention to the possibility of trick-or-treaters darting into traffic.
- Citizens should call 911 to report any suspicious activities or acts of vandalism.

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Below are some of the safe trick-or-treating options for neighborhood children Chicago Police are providing this year. Several Chicago Police district stations will host haunted houses this Halloween and many others will be passing out goodies to trick-or-treaters. A sampling of planned events is listed below, or call your local District to see what may be taking place in your area:

**Grand Crossing (3rd) District:** On October 31st, police officers will host Halloween Fright

Night, including a free candy giveaway, at the 3rd District Station at 7040 S. Cottage Grove from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m.

For more information, call 312-747-7004.

South Chicago (4<sup>th</sup>) District: Join officers for crafts, movies, and festive treats on October

31<sup>st</sup> from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. at 2255 E. 103<sup>rd</sup> St. For more

information, call 312-747-8205 or 312-747-1708.

Calumet (5<sup>th</sup>) District: On October 31<sub>st</sub>, police officers will host a Haunted House from

4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 727 E. 111<sup>th</sup> St. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, call

312-747-8210.

**Deering (9<sup>th</sup>) District:** On October 31<sup>st</sup>, the CAPS office will host a basketball

tournament with a cookout, candy and open gym at Cornell Square Park from 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. The event will take place at 1809 W 50th St. For more information, call 312-747-8227.

Austin (15<sup>th</sup>) District: Join officers for a Haunted House/Halloween Festival on

Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, in the 15th District Community Room between 4 p.m.-7 p.m. The event is targeted towards children 5-

12 years of age but open to all.

Albany Park (17<sup>th</sup>) District: The annual Halloween event will take place on October 31<sup>st</sup>

from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the north parking lot located at 4650 N Pulaski Road. The event will feature a petting zoo, pony wheel and candy stations. For more information, call 312-742-4588.

Rogers Park (24th) District: On October 31st, police officers will be distributing candy

and glow sticks to young trick-or-treaters who visit the 24th District Station. For more information, call 312-744-

5907.