

# HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF

- Drug Task Force Investigators have executed numerous search warrants and the suspects have had police scanners sitting out listening to police radio traffic. Now that police scanners can be found on mobile devices, this makes it much easier to monitor real time radio traffic. Additionally, burglars have used police scanners to “time” their burglaries. They have been known to set off alarms numerous times and watch for police response and also comments from police to dispatch on when they will stop responding to “repeat alarms”.
- Incidents are being placed on social media and updated in real time including specific tactics that police are requesting (perimeters, K-9’s, stop sticks, helicopter, watching on highway cameras, etc.) Suspects have called 911 during some incidents and have made comments about watching live, either on the news, social media. This has also caused lay-citizens to respond to scenes.
- HCSO is responsible for the protection of identities, per Minnesota State Statute 13.82, Subd. 17 because we are the dispatching agency for 25 Law Enforcement agencies. Specifically in the following areas:
  - (b) when access to the data would reveal the identity of a victim or alleged victim of criminal sexual conduct or sex trafficking under section 609.322, 609.341 to 609.3451, or 617.246, subdivision 2;
    - When a victim calls in, we often need to air the address of where they are located so an officer can come speak to them. This could be their home address and in turn reveal their identity.
  - (d) when access to the data would reveal the identity of a victim of or witness to a crime if the victim or witness specifically requests not to be identified publicly, unless the agency reasonably determines that revealing the identity of the victim or witness would not threaten the personal safety or property of the individual;
    - More often than not these days, our callers do not want to provide their name, address or phone number because they are worried that their information is going to get out and the person they are calling on is going to find out who called and possibly retaliate.
  - (f) when access to the data would reveal the identity of a person who placed a call to a 911 system or the identity or telephone number of a service subscriber whose phone is used to place a call to the 911 system and: (1) the agency determines that revealing the identity may threaten the personal safety or property of any person; or (2) the object of the call is to receive help in a mental health emergency. For the purposes of this paragraph, a voice recording of a call placed to the 911 system is deemed to reveal the identity of the caller;
    - Mental health emergency calls are on the rise. When we dispatch these calls via the radio, there are times these are at their home address, which in turn could identify the 911 caller. Mental Health Calls include: Mental Problems, Suicide Threats or Attempts, Emotional Disturbed Person, Etc.

## Hennepin County Sheriff's Office

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