



## **Vacation Watch Program Policy**

### **Program**

Residences that are left vacant when the owners are out of town are prime targets for burglaries and vandalism. In an effort to reduce these threats, the Pilot Point Police Department provides a Vacation Watch Program that provides increased patrols for residents that are temporarily away from home.

While a home is on Vacation Watch, officers routinely check the location to ensure a house and premises are secure and will investigate any suspicious circumstances. When practical, the home will be checked two times a day (see 'Special Circumstances' below for variances).

### **Eligibility**

Any single family residence that is permanently occupied is normally eligible for Vacation Watch. Exceptions are listed below:

- Vacant or uninhabited houses
- Houses under foreclosure
- House for rent or sale

### **Length of Service**

Vacation Watch will be provided for residents who will be away for at least 4 days, but not more than 14 days. Residents will be eligible for Vacation Watch twice in any calendar year. Additional requests during a calendar year may be approved on a case-by-case basis.

### **Request for Service**

Residents must complete a Vacation Watch Request form and submit the form for review and approval either via email to: [info@pilotpointpolice.org](mailto:info@pilotpointpolice.org) or in person at: 1797 N. Washington St., Pilot Point, TX 76258.

### **Officer Responsibility**

Officers will ensure that each Vacation Watch request in their district is checked for obvious signs of criminal activity or suspicious circumstances and take appropriate action. The officers checking the house will list the time and date the property was checked and will initial the entry in a log, a copy of which may be provided upon request\*. The Vacation Watch log will be routed each day to the on duty shift supervisor to verify the property was checked and the entries on the log are complete.

### **Special Circumstances**

Residents may have made arrangements with friends, neighbors, relatives, or certain companies to care for pets or plants, house-sit, or attend to agreed upon or contracted duties. To participate in this program, residents requesting this service must have notified anyone that they have authorized to access the property that assignments and duties are to be completed between the hours of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Authorized persons must be listed by name and/or company, along with a reason for being present at the residence under the appropriate section of the Vacation Watch Request form. Please note that officers will not check a residence during the day if a requestor has indicated that they have authorized anyone access to the property at that time and will only check the property during the hours of 7:00 pm to 7:00 am.

If a requestor has made plans for the property to be occupied or visited at night, the property is not eligible for Vacation Watch.

\*You may request a copy of the Vacation Watch log upon your return. The request must be made in writing in person or via email.

## **PILOT POINT POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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