



Pittsfield Charter Township
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Department of Public Safety

Weekly Public Safety Activity Summary
November 25th – December 1st, 2012

Crime Map for the week of November 25th – December 1st, 2012



COMMUNITY EVENTS – INFORMATION

Text Message Gift Card Scams:

You receive a text message. You open it. You are surprised by a message informing you you've won a Best Buy gift card (or Target, Wal-Mart, other major retailers). You are instructed to go to a website, enter a PIN, and the card is yours.

The text URL leads to a website that has the company colors and logo. It looks authentic with the company name as the sites sub-domain (example: www.bestbuy.scamwebsite.com), but it's not.

What Can You Do About Scam Text Messages?

- Ignore instructions to text "STOP" or "NO" to prevent future texts. This is a common ploy by scammers to confirm they have an active phone number.
- Forward the texts to **7726 (SPAM on most keypads)**. This will alert your cell phone carrier to block future texts from those numbers.
- If you think your text message is real, be sure it directs you to a web address like Bestbuy.com or Target.com, not www.bestbuy.otherwebsite.com.

As always, if you think getting a free \$1,000 gift card seems too good to be true, it probably is. For more information visit the Better Business Bureaus website. Click on the image below.



What is SMiShing?

“SMiShing” is really just another form of Phishing. “SMiShing” occurs when a fraudster sends you a SMS/text message asking you to provide sensitive, personal, and/or financial information via a web link, a false website, or a telephone number. The messages could appear to be from T-Mobile, Sprint, Verizon, AT &T or other companies you do business with. **Please note that cell phone providers will never ask you to “confirm” or “verify” your sensitive personal information in an unsolicited SMS text message.**

For more information on how to block unwanted cell phone numbers click on your carrier image below.



WEEKLY FIRE REPORT

Total Call for Service – Year To Date: **2,430**

Type of Incident: Structure Fire

Complaint # 2392

Information: On November 27th 2012, at 8:09pm, Fire Department personnel were dispatched to the 5200 Block of W. Michigan Ave for a possible structure fire. On arrival, fire crews found heavy smoke coming from the roof of a trailer. The fire originated on the exterior of the structure near the front door and extended into the attic causing significant damage to the structure. The fire was under control in approximately 45 minutes. The family of 5 was displaced and the American Red Cross is assisting the family.

Further Investigation: The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

Home Fire Safety for People with Disabilities

The National Fire Prevention Association provides fire safety tips for the families and care givers for persons with disabilities. During the winter season it's important to review your current procedures and or create them to help save a family member. Click on the image below for the N.F.P.A.'s P.D.F. file with tips on caring for your family.



WEEKLY CRIME SUMMARY

Total Calls for Service for the week: **243**
Total Calls for Service year to date: **13,383**

Significant Police Events:

Type of Incident: Burglary

Complaint # 120013241

On November 27, 2012, at 8:46 a.m., Pittsfield Township police responded to a business in the 4000 block of Carpenter Road. The incident was reported to have happened between the hours of 11p.m. and 8 a.m. The front window and business office door was kicked in and \$150.00 was reported stolen.

Type of Incident: Home Invasion

Complaint # 120013278

On November 29, 2012, at 11:37 a.m., Pittsfield Township police responded to a home invasion in the 4200 block of Cloverlane Drive. The residents reported that during the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., the front door was kicked open and electronics, jewelry, and other items were stolen from the home.

The above named incidents remain under investigation. Anyone who witnessed either of these incidents is asked to contact the Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety at 734-822-4911 or the confidential tip line at 734- 822-4958.