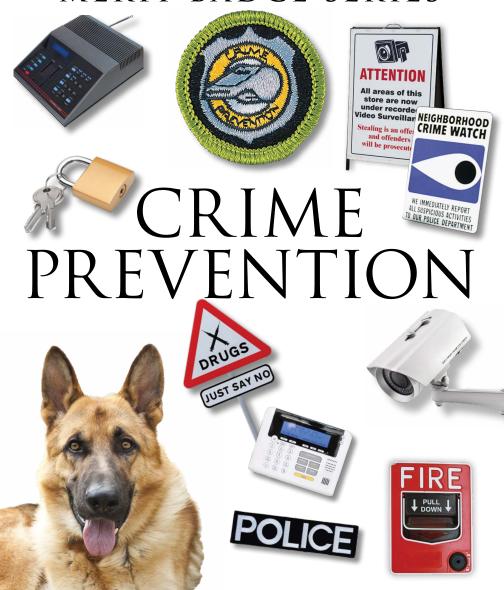
## MERIT BADGE SERIES



# BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA MERIT BADGE SERIES

# CRIME PREVENTION



"Enhancing our youths' competitive edge through merit badges"





## **Crime Prevention**

- Discuss the role and value of laws in society with regard to crime and crime prevention. Include in your discussion the definitions of "crime" and "crime prevention."
- Prepare a journal from various sources that address crime and crime prevention efforts in your community.
- 3. Discuss the following with your counselor:
  - (a) The role of citizens, including youth, in crime prevention.
  - (b) Gangs and their impact on the community.
  - (c) When and how to report a crime.
- After doing EACH of the following, discuss with your counselor what you have learned.
  - (a) Inspect your neighborhood for opportunities that may lead to crime. Learn how to do a crime prevention survey.
  - (b) Using the checklist in this pamphlet, conduct a security survey of your home and discuss the results with your family.
- 5. Teach your family or patrol members how to protect themselves from crime at home, at school, in your community, and while traveling.
- 6. Help raise awareness about one school safety issue facing students by doing ONE of the following:
  - (a) Create a poster for display on a school bulletin board.
  - (b) With permission from school officials, create a pagelong public service announcement that could be read over the public address system at school or posted on the school's website.
  - (c) Make a presentation to a group such as a Cub Scout den that addresses the issue.
- 7. Do ONE of the following:
  - (a) Assist in the planning and organization of a crime prevention program in your community such as Neighborhood Watch, Community Watch, or Crime Stoppers. Explain how this program can benefit your neighborhood.
  - (b) With your parent's and counselor's approval, visit a jail or detention facility or a criminal court hearing. Discuss your experience with your counselor.
- 8. Discuss the following with your counselor:
  - (a) How drug abuse awareness programs such as "Drugs: A Deadly Game" help prevent crime.

- (b) Why alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana are sometimes called "gateway drugs" and how gateway drugs can lead to the use of other drugs.
- (c) The potential consequences from the misuse of prescription drugs.
- (d) How the illegal sale and use of drugs lead to other crimes.
- (e) Three resources in your city where a person with a drug problem or drugrelated problem can go for help.
- (f) How to recognize child abuse.
- (g) The three R's of Youth Protection.
- 9. Discuss the following with your counselor:
  - (a) The role of a sheriff's or police department in crime prevention.
  - (b) The purpose and operation of agencies in your community that help law enforcement personnel prevent crime, and how those agencies function during emergency situations.
  - (c) Explain the role private security plays in crime prevention.
  - (d) Choose a career in the crime prevention or security industry that interests you. Describe the level of education required and responsibilities of a person in that position. Tell why this position interests you.

## Crime Prevention Resources

#### Scouting Literature

Drugs: A Deadly Game pamphlet; Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, Fingerprinting, Fire Safety, Law, and Safety merit badge pamphlets

Visit the Boy Scouts of America's official retail website at http:// www.scoutstuff.org for a complete listing of all merit badge pamphlets and other helpful Scouting materials and supplies.

#### **Books**

- Davidson, Tom, et al. *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Home Security.*Alpha Books, 2001.
- DeBecker, Gavin. *Protecting the Gift: Keeping Children and Teenagers Safe*(and Parents Sane). Dell, 2000.
- Giggans, Patricia Occhiuzzo, and Barrie Levy. 50 Ways to a Safer World: Everyday Actions You Can Take to Prevent Violence in Neighborhoods, Schools, and Communities. Seal Press, 1997.
- Hammer, Carl. Home Security: How to Select Reliable Locks and Alarms for

- *Your Home, Office, or Car.* Paladin Press, 2001.
- Kraizer, Sherryll. The Safe Child Book: A Commonsense Approach to Protecting Children and Teaching Children to Protect Themselves. Fireside, 1996.
- Mann, Stephanie, et al. Safe Homes, Safe Neighborhoods: Stopping Crime Where You Live. Nole Press, 1993.
- Rawls, Neal, and Sue Kovach. *Be Alert, Be Aware, Have a Plan: The Complete Guide to Personal Security.*The Lyons Press, 2002.
- Sechler, Jeff. Internet Safety for Kids and Young Adults. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform, 2012.

# Organizations and Websites Bureau of Justice Assistance

U.S. Department of Justice Telephone: 202-616-6500 Website: http://www.bja.gov

#### Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

International CPTED Association Telephone: 403-775-7400 Website: http://www.cpted.net

#### **Ignitus**

Toll-free telephone: 800-316-4311

Website:

http://www.ignitusworldwide.org

#### National Center for Missing & Exploited Children

Toll-free hotline: 800-843-5678 Website: http://www.missingkids.com

### National Child Identification Program

Telephone: 972-934-2211

Website:

http://www.childidprogram.com

#### **National Crime Prevention Council**

Telephone: 443-292-4565 Website: http://www.ncpc.org

#### **National McGruff House Network**

Website: http://www.mcgruff.org
National School Safety Center

Talanhana, 005 272 0077

Telephone: 805-373-9977

Website: http://www.schoolsafety.us

#### National Sheriffs' Association

Toll-free telephone: 800-424-7827 Website: http://www.sheriffs.org

#### **Prevent Child Abuse America**

Toll-free telephone: 800-244-5373

Website:

http://www.preventchildabuse.org

### **Acknowledgments**

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Dan Bryant—pages 31–32 (both), 41, and 47

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Doug Wilson—cover (Neighborhood Watch sign)