



**Home/Business Security Assessments:** Are you concerned about the safety and security of your home or business? If so, call us to schedule a free security assessment. We will make recommendations and offer suggestions on how you can better safeguard your home or business.



**Neighborhood Watch Training:** We will not be scheduling any more monthly training sessions at the station due to the low turnout of people. If your community is interested in receiving Neighborhood Watch training, please call us and we will schedule a time to come to your community to give the training.



**Franconia child safety seat checks appointment line**  
703-922-8906



**Citizen's Advisory Committee**

Franconia Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Franconia District Police Station. The next scheduled meetings are Wednesday, May 16th and June 21st at 7:30 pm; social time starts at 7:00 pm. The CAC works; these meetings are very informative and help keep residents of the Franconia area aware of police activity in their community. Everyone is welcome, so please join us.



**Franconia District Police Station**  
6121 Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310

This document is available in an alternative format upon request. Please call the Fairfax County Police Department at 703-246-7562. TTY 703-204-2264. Allow seven working days for preparation of the material.

**MODIP:** The Mature Operators Driver Improvement Program is offered to residents 55 years of age and older. Sanctioned by the American Automobile Association, this 8-hour course may result in insurance premium reductions as mandated by Virginia. Classes are normally held the second Saturday at the station from 8 am to 4 pm. Fee is \$10 per person for books and materials. MODIP reservation line is 703-924-6588.



*Helping victims rebuild their lives,*  
Serving the citizens of Fairfax County, Fairfax City, and the Towns of Herndon and Vienna.



**6121 Franconia Road  
Alexandria, VA 22310**

Phone number: 703-922-0889

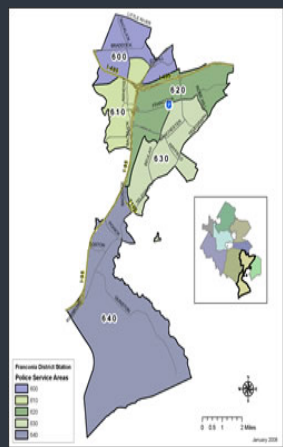
Fax number: 703-719-6436

Captain Shawn Bennett  
Station Commander

Lieutenant Paul Thompson  
Assistant Commander

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# FOCUS ON FRANCONIA

FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

March/April this issue

2010

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## Commander's Corner

This brief article gives me a chance to introduce myself to you. I am Captain Shawn Bennett, Commander of the Franconia District Station. I replaced Captain Erin Schaible, who moved on to become the Commander of the Organized Crime Division. I thank Captain Schaible for her dedication and for her community outreach programs that have developed excellent working relationships within the community, which I hope will continue to grow. Newly assigned to Franconia District Station I am learning the daily operations of our station, its personnel, and determining my strategy to provide quality police services to our communities.

I have been a member of the police department since 1989. I have served as a police officer at the Mount Vernon Station, the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy, and on the Motor Squad. As a supervisor, I was a sergeant at the Mount Vernon District Station and later the Assistant Commander; at the Operations Support Bureau as a Motor Sergeant and Motor Second Lieutenant; and at the Information Technology Bureau as a First Lieutenant and Captain.

It is an honor and privilege to be the Commander here at Franconia. This station has an excellent reputation throughout the police department and also receives tremendous support from the community we serve. I will continue the tradition here at Franconia to engage the community and listen to its needs. I look forward to meeting and working with many of you and your communities. Finally, please accept my sincerest thank you for supporting all of us at the Franconia District Station.

Until next time,  
Captain Shawn P. Bennett



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## CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS

In the past few months, there has been an increase in catalytic converters stolen from automobiles.

This has occurred at commuter lots, and neighborhoods throughout the County.

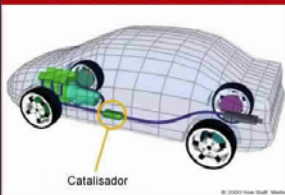
This kind of theft has also been discovered in neighboring jurisdictions.

The thefts in Fairfax County have been occurring during daytime and nighttime hours, mostly during the work week. Suspect descriptions vary.

Toyotas have been frequently targeted, although not exclusively. Community members are strongly encouraged to be aware of suspicious activity during the course of your normal business day. Whether you are driving through your neighborhood, metro lots or business complexes be alert of your surroundings. Don't confront criminals!

**PLEASE** remember to report ALL suspicious activity immediately by calling:  
Emergency: 9-1-1 (in-progress calls)  
Non-Emergency: 703-691-2131 (reports only)  
**CALLERS MAY REMAIN ANONYMOUS**

Como funcionam os catalisadores



## Calling The Fairfax County Police By Master Police Officer B.J. Murcek

The Department of Public Safety Communication (DPSC) is the answering point for all police and fire emergency, non-emergency, and animal service calls in Fairfax County. The DPSC is also the central dispatch point for police and animal services. In calendar year DPSC receives a total of 1.15 million calls. This breaks down to over 96,000 calls a month.

The DPSC in conjunction with the police department has procedures in place to maximize service provided to the residents. When you call the police for an emergency or non-emergency situation,

the call taker you speak with will need certain information from you. First and foremost is the location of the event. It may seem the call taker is asking too many questions however this information is important to the officers who will be responding.

Calls for service are prioritized for dispatch. Calls that could result in injury, death or the loss of property are dispatched immediately. Calls of a less severe nature are dispatched as soon as possible. Examples of these are noise violations, parking complaints, and routine service calls.

The police department has a citizen reporting section, which is designed to allow citizens to make reports over the phone or the Internet. It allows citizens to get case numbers for insurance purposes. The case number received from this service is the same case number you would receive if an officer came to your house. For instance, if you lose your cell phone the service provider will ask for a case number from the police. You could use this service to obtain that case number, without having to wait around for an officer



The Website for this service is [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police). Find the quick links section and click on File a police incident report online. The site has an explanation of the process and the form. After submitting the form you should receive a case number via email, normally within 3 days.

### When calling 911 or 703-691-2131.....Do Not Hang Up Until Told to Do So by the Dispatcher

Listen to and follow any instructions the dispatcher may give you, such as where to meet the officers. Please help to provide any of the following important information to the responding officer:

- ★ What happened
- ★ Where it happened (address)
- ★ When it happened
- ★ Suspect description
- ★ Vehicle description
- ★ License number
- ★ Direction of travel of suspect
- ★ Did you see any weapons/How many suspects

