

When should I call 911?

911 is for emergencies only. Police, fire and medical assistance is sent out when there is an immediate threat to life or property and an immediate response is required.

911 should also be called when there is a good chance of arresting a crime suspect or preventing the development of a serious crime situation. Timely reporting of suspicious persons, vehicles, or circumstances, threats of violence or injury, and disturbances of any nature could prevent an emergency from occurring.

Examples of emergency calls:

- •In progress crimes
- House/structure fire
- A person has been shot
- Bank/business robbery
- Burglary in progress/just occurred
- Life threatening condition and medical aid is needed
- •Traffic accident with injuries involved
- Someone is having a heart attack

Examples of non-emergency calls:

- Loud party or music
- Parking violations
- Barking dog
- Road information
- •My car was towed. How do I get it back?
- •Non-injury traffic accidents The traffic light is broken
- •I scraped my knee
- •Time delayed reports with no suspect information

Note: Calls to 911 for non-emergencies require the dispatcher to divert his or her attention away from real emergencies and may create a delay in responding officers to the scene of a serious crime.