



# **News Release**

## **CITY OF MOUNTLAKE TERRACE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **2009 Crime Statistics Show Downward Trend**

MOUNTLAKE TERRACE--The City of Mountlake Terrace Police Department's visible presence in the community and aggressive enforcement efforts led to a 24% decline in total crime compared to the first quarter of 2008. At Monday's City Council Meeting, Police Chief Greg Wilson presented the 2009 first quarter crime statistics, including those for Code Enforcement and Electronic Home Monitoring (EHM).

In 2008, the City of Mountlake Terrace saw a 16% decrease in crime. In the first quarter of 2009, this downward trend continued. Crimes against persons are down 23% and property crime is down 24%. Auto theft saw a 63% decrease, indicating that the Snohomish County Task Force has made a big impact in Mountlake Terrace. Felony and misdemeanor arrests are up due to an increase in enforcement. Adult bookings are down due to alternatives such as Electronic Home Monitoring. "Our Electric Home Monitoring Program has been highly successful and is serving as a model for other agencies," said Chief Wilson.

The Mountlake Terrace Detective Division, that received the City's Work Team Recognition Award in 2008, boasted a 64% clearance rate in the first quarter of 2009.

The Code Enforcement Program aggressively seeks voluntary compliance to alleviate the negative effects of nuisance properties on the community. The city plans on continuing its aggressive approach in Code Compliance, issuing criminal citations for property owners who fail to voluntarily comply to remedy code violations.

"I've heard good things from the community," stated Michelle Robles. "You are doing a good job."

"We will continue to deter and aggressively pursue criminal behavior and nuisances through enforcement, visibility and presence in our community. Those who choose to be involved in criminal activity or nuisance violations will quickly realize a welcome mat does not exist," added Chief Wilson.

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