

## TAKE ACTION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

- ◆ Be sure you know where and how to report potentially violent situations or concerns about conditions in your neighborhood that could lead to violence. Ask the Unified Police Department for help in identifying what to report, when, to whom, and how.
- ◆ Support schools and youth clubs in their efforts to keep guns, knives, and other weapons from menacing the everyday lives of children and teens. Encourage children to report any weapons they know about in or near school, to school staff and the Unified Police Department.
- ◆ Look around to see what happens to young people after school hours. Are their supervised programs for younger children? Are programs available for teens, or preteens, to assist with other children by helping with homework, learn art, music, sports, or computer skills? In many areas, after-school programs are located in the schools themselves and go a long way in helping prevent episodes of violence in the community.
- ◆ Start a discussion with neighbors about views pertaining to weapons in the home, children playing

with toy weapons, children and violent entertainment, and how kids in the neighborhood settle and should settle arguments. A PTA meeting, informal social, or Neighborhood Watch meeting could provide a good opportunity.

- ◆ Learn you state and local laws on firearms. Insist these laws be enforced vigorously, but fairly. Support police, prosecutors, judges and other local officials who enforce laws designed to prevent gun violence.

### Sheriff's Office Precincts

<b>Millcreek Precinct</b>	<b>272-5225</b>
<b>Holladay Precinct</b>	<b>272-0426</b>
<b>Kearns Precinct</b>	<b>967-4420</b>
<b>Magna Precinct</b>	<b>250-1474</b>
<b>Riverton Precinct</b>	<b>254-0167</b>
<b>Herriman Precinct</b>	<b>302-2080</b>
<b>Crime Prevention Unit</b>	<b>468-3901</b>
<b>Graffiti Cleanup</b>	<b>468-2182</b>
<b>UPD Non-emergency</b>	<b>743-7000</b>
<b>Emergency</b>	<b>911</b>



Unified Police Department  
Riverton Precinct

# BE GUNWISE!



UNIFIED POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Sheriff James M. Winder

[www.updsl.org](http://www.updsl.org)  
743-7000

## REDUCE THE RISK

**W**hen we talk about violence, we cannot ignore weapons. Nine out of ten murders involve a firearm. Most robberies involve the use of a weapon, most frequently, a handgun. One in seven teens has reported carrying a weapon-like a bat, club, knife, or gun-at some point to protect themselves. Weapons make violence more deadly and less personal. A gun in the home can increase the likelihood of homicide three times, and that of suicide five times.



- ◆ Think seriously about having weapons, especially firearms, in your home. Studies show that a firearm in the home is more than forty times likely to hurt or kill a family member, as to stop a crime.
- ◆ Look at other ways to protect yourself and your home. Invest in top-grade locks, jamming devices for doors and windows, a dog or alarm system are good options. Start, or join, a Neighborhood Watch program. Check with local martial arts studios, or the YMCA/YWCA about self-defense classes.
- ◆ If you do choose to own firearms; handguns, rifles, shotguns etc., make sure they are safely stored. This means unloaded, trigger-locked, and secured inside a gun case or vault. Ammunition should be stored separately and out of reach of children. Check frequently to ensure this storage remains secure.
- ◆ Obtain training from a certified instructor in firearms safety for everyone in the home. Make sure it is kept current. Hunter Education is also mandatory if there are minors in the home who are going to hunt.

- ◆ Teach your children what to do if they find a firearm or something that might be a weapon. Teach them: Stop, Don't Touch, Get Away, and Tell An Adult!

## STOP VIOLENCE

- ◆ Show children how to settle arguments or solve problems without using words or actions that hurt others. Set the example by the way you handle everyday conflicts in the family, at work, and in the neighborhood. Don't forget that common courtesies like "please" and "thank you," help ease tensions that can lead to violence.
- ◆ Discourage name-calling and teasing. This behavior can easily get out of hand, moving all too quickly from just words, to fists, knives and even firearms. Teach children that bullying is wrong.
- ◆ Take a hard look at what you, your family and your friends watch and listen to for entertainment. Many actions movies, video games and music lyrics glorify violence. How do these sources depict solving problems? Do they make firearms and other violence appear exciting, funny or glamorous?