



BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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****For Immediate Release****

View of Berkeley Crime Just A Click Away

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Berkeley, California (February 22, 2006) Today, the City Of Berkeley Police Department (BPD) unveiled their newest tool to help the community stay informed about crime. A few years in the making, **Community Crime View** is the product of collaboration between BPD, the City of Berkeley Information Technology Department and members of the Berkeley community. The Berkeley Police Department is one of the few law enforcement agencies in the Bay Area that is providing this state of the art program.

BPD currently maintains its own website with a link from the City of Berkeley (COB) home web page. (www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/police) The BPD site offers a wide array of resources, including its latest press releases, news and crime alerts, Most Wanted, crime prevention materials, as well as daily crime bulletins. Persons with Internet access can easily log onto the website, click on a **Community Crime View** logo link on the BPD homepage to launch this new Geographical Information Systems (GIS) map based crime search. **Community Crime View** then offers the user the ability to select various classifications of incidents/or crimes along with the specific area on the City of Berkeley map of interest. Further, **Community Crime View** can search up to a mile from an address, a feature such as a school or park, a BPD police beat or a city council district.

In addition to being a wonderful tool for community interest and awareness, BPD officers are being trained to use **Community Crime View**. One benefit to officers is that they can remain on the pulse of their beat responsibility by exploring crime incidents that may have taken place on their days off, hours when they are not working or during vacations. When asked his impressions of **Community Crime View**, Greg Wineger, Willard Watch Coordinator said, "I heartily endorse the new Crime View tracking tool on the BPD web site. Berkeley citizens have concise and graphic displays that will help us stay in touch with criminal events and police activity. Crime View is intuitive to navigate and is amazing in the details available."



Just A Click Away...