



### Valley Spring COP member's actions prompt arrest

Every Citizens on Patrol member anticipates the moment they will observe criminal activity in their neighborhood. This is an opportunity to stop crime before it happens and to make their community safer. These moments are the ones that truly define the success of the program and the members themselves.

On Sept. 22, 2006, Steve Messina with Valley Spring COP had one of these moments. As he was patrolling his neighborhood, a citizen recognized his vehicle and flagged him down. He told Steve there was a man in Cravens Park exposing himself to people as they drove by. Steve observed the suspect while the resident called 9-1-1.

When police officers arrived, Steve gave them an accurate description of the suspect and the direction the suspect traveled. From the time officers arrived on scene to the minute the suspect was apprehended, only 15 minutes had passed. When officers searched the suspect they found cocaine on his person and the suspect was taken to jail.

Steve's accurate description of the suspect proved vital in this case and if it weren't for him, there may still be a man exposing himself at Craven's Park. Keep up the good work, Steve!