



POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Kevin Vogel, Chief of Police

SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPANDS FIRST ALARM SECURITY DOWNTOWN DURING HOLIDAY SEASON

In an effort to provide additional downtown presence during the holiday season the Santa Cruz Police Department is announcing the temporary expansion of First Alarm guards downtown. The expansion will provide daily coverage and will supplement additional sworn staff assigned to downtown. The department will reallocate additional police officers downtown during the holiday season, a common practice over the last few years.

“We’ve found First Alarm to be a cost-effective way to aid officers in ensuring a safe environment during the holiday season” Police Chief Kevin Vogel said. “Since we’ve implemented the program last year, we’ve received universally positive feedback about their presence downtown.”

Chip, Executive Director of the Downtown Association said, “Having the consistent and professional presence of First Alarm has really made a great impact on the downtown area. The guards play a very helpful role for our businesses, patrons and visitors.”

First Alarm guards were trained by Santa Cruz Police Department downtown officers in the local ordinances and utilized the police dispatch system to report problems as soon as they occur. The additional guard will work from Noon-8:00 pm and overlap with the current guard schedule. The funding comes from the salary savings during the hiring of the department’s police officer openings. The program will cost approximately \$5,200.

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