



December 2, 2015

MISSION STATEMENT
East Portland Communities Against Crime
(EPCAC)

We are a group of concerned residents from throughout East Portland. And are coming to you with great concern over the dramatic increase in property crimes, the historically high level of gang related violence, and the ever increasing number of homeless and displaced people, who sadly have been left with the bad reputation of increased crime, trash, and human waste. While at the same time all of these issues have coincided with a budget that does not allow for adequate staffing of our Police force.

Our mission is to bring together individuals, groups and businesses thru our personal outreach, continued meetings with select guest speakers, and via print and social media advertisements. With the expectation that we can encourage many neighborhoods as possible, to become involved in creating and maintaining, a Community Watch Program or Foot Patrol. Our plan is that with the support of everyone, from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement, The City of Portland, East Portland Neighborhood Office and East Portland Action Plan. That we will be able to increase the active number of Neighborhood Watches and Foot Patrols throughout all of East Portland. In addition we would like to reach out to include our Non-English speaking residents as well, and invite them to become part of a very valuable committee. In conversations I have had with neighbors who are not Native English speaking, I find they tend to not report crimes. We believe that having them join us will not only empower them, but I am sure we will be able to learn much from them ourselves.

We believe with the commitment we have already shown, and our continued commitment to this cause, we will be able to dramatically increase the number of involved residents and communities throughout East Portland. And as statistics have shown crime does drop in areas with a strong Neighborhood Watch Presence. Additionally groups with a common goal gain the a feeling of involvement and as previously stated, a sense of empowerment in turn bringing neighbors closer together. Creating the feeling of a safe, secure, welcoming, diverse and livable community. Which is exactly what East Portland has always had the potential to be, and will be, if given the opportunity.