## **Dallas Crime Watch Resources for Reporting Problem STRs**

By Cindy Hellstern

The City of Dallas has two vital Crime Watch resources that you can use to report incidents related to STRs causing problems in your neighborhood. The resources are

- 1. iWatch Dallas
- DallasPolice.net

IWatchDallas is a mobile app that citizens can use as a direct line to DPD for submitting information of any activity that might help with investigations or crime. The DPD head of NPO showed me how to use it and asked that citizens use this source to directly upload audio, video, photos, and written statements.

The app has a blue background with the city of Dallas' skyline in black with white lights at night.

Here are the simple steps to begin using the app:

- 1. First you download the app from the Apple or Google Play stores (depending on whether you use an Apple iPhone or an Android phone)
- 2. Go to the Main menu (see the three bars on the bottom left of the screen)
- 3. Tap the item "How to use" and it will walk you step by step how to use the app.

The second site is a direct site of the City of Dallas and DPD: <a href="https://dallaspolice.net/">https://dallaspolice.net/</a>

The police have asked citizens to use this site to report tips or reach divisions directly when they have information that could be helpful to the DPD regarding criminal events. Information that is input here actually will move more quickly through the system than a 911 call will, or a 911 officer visit and report for investigation, unless an actual arrest is made.

Here are the steps for using this website:

- 1. On the landing page, you will see the DPD silver officer badge and Dallas Police Department at the top of the screen (do not use the search bar)
- 2. Scroll all the way to the bottom of the page to where you see Quick Links in Bold letters.
- 3. Right below that, tap on Divisions
- 4. Scroll all the way down the next page past the photos of actual Patrol Division locations to where you will see a list of tabs for each division of DPD such as Auto Theft, Criminal Investigations, etc.
- 5. For this example, tap on Narcotics.
- 6. This will take you to division page giving brief information about department, links, phone numbers to: IwatchDallas, Crime Stoppers and direct telephone and fax numbers to the Narcotics division.
- 7. ALSO, you can go to the lower right corner of this page for specific information about the narcotics division, and there is a form for requesting service related to Narcotics.
- 8. Other helpful division links would be to Nuisance Abatement and Criminal Investigations.