

# Sheriff or Private Patrol

## *Tips on knowing who to call and when*

Detering crime within communities is an important goal, but complete elimination of crime is not realistic. In an effort to reduce crime in Towne Lake, we have engaged in contract services with both a private patrol agency, Allied Universal, and the Harris County Sheriff's Department.

Allied and the Sheriff's Department are distinct entities, each with specific roles, responsibilities, and authority. Understanding the differences between each of them is essential in knowing who to call and when.

### Authority and Jurisdiction:

**Allied:** Allied is a privately owned company hired by Towne Lake CAI to provide patrol services. They operate under the authority granted by their contract with Towne Lake CAI and their jurisdiction is limited to Towne Lake premises and assets. In addition, they aid in limited enforcement of Association rules and regulations.

**Harris County Sheriff:** The Sheriff's deputies are responsible for enforcing local, regional, and national laws. They operate under the authority granted by the state of Texas to enforce laws, conduct investigations, make arrests, and exercise authority over the general public within Harris County.

Allied and our Sheriff's deputies contribute to crime deterrence through visibility, proactive measures, and community engagement. Residents also need to do their part by calling whenever they see suspicious persons or vehicles and whenever they witness any criminal activity. Doing things that reduce the temptation of criminal behavior, such as locking car or removing valuables from visibility within cars and in general, paying attention to surroundings is an easy way to help. By each of us doing our part and fostering a strong partnership between our Allied officers, Sheriff deputies, and residents, we can create a safer environment in Towne Lake.

# *Know who to call and when*

This chart is intended to be used as a guideline as your situation may warrant a different response.

## Harris County Sheriff's Department

<https://www.harriscountysoc.org/>

Non-Emergency: 713-221-6000

Life-Threatening Emergencies: 911

## Allied Universal

<https://aus.com/>

Patrol Vehicle: 832-418-5495

Life-Threatening Emergencies: 911

### Criminal Activity:

Witnessing a crime in progress or suspecting criminal activity such as theft, burglary, assault, vandalism, or illegal drug-related activities.

Reporting an unauthorized solicitor trespassing on your property within open neighborhoods.

### Emergencies:

Accidents involving serious injury or loss of life, medical emergencies, fires, or situations where immediate response is critical.

### Public Safety Concerns:

Instances involving public disturbances, fights, weapons possession, or any situation that endangers the safety of the public.

### Traffic Accidents or Violations:

Traffic collisions causing injuries or significant property damage, especially if traffic flow is disrupted or if emergency medical assistance is needed.

### Vacation Watches:

A Vacation Watch is a service provided by the Harris County Sheriff's Office for citizens residing in the unincorporated areas of Harris County. Citizens may request a Vacation Watch by completing the on-line form found on their website.

### Violence or Threats:

Situations where there is an immediate threat to personal safety, domestic violence, or threats of harm to oneself or others.

### Amenity and Common Area Trespassing:

Suspicion of trespassing occurring at the Lakehouse, Clubhouse, parks, playgrounds, or lake – fishing, boating, kayaking, etc.

\* Allied has been tasked with verifying the identification of individuals accessing amenities and common areas, ensuring that they are residents of Towne Lake.

### Enforcement of Towne Lake Amenity Rules:

Assists in upholding amenity rules and regulations, including tasks like ensuring areas are cleared for closing, confirming guest limits, enforcing curfews for amenity access, and verifying age for fitness center usage, among other responsibilities.

### Gate Access Assistance:

Provide limited assistance in the event of gate access failures.

### Lake and Boating Rules Enforcement:

Assist with enforcement of Towne Lake's Lake and Boating rules

\* Seasonal services provided from April-October

### Private Neighborhood Trespassing:

Suspicious persons or vehicles in a private neighborhood, including solicitors.

### Property Patrolling:

Routine patrols to deter potential criminal activity and provide a visible presence of patrol services.