



# Somerville Police Department

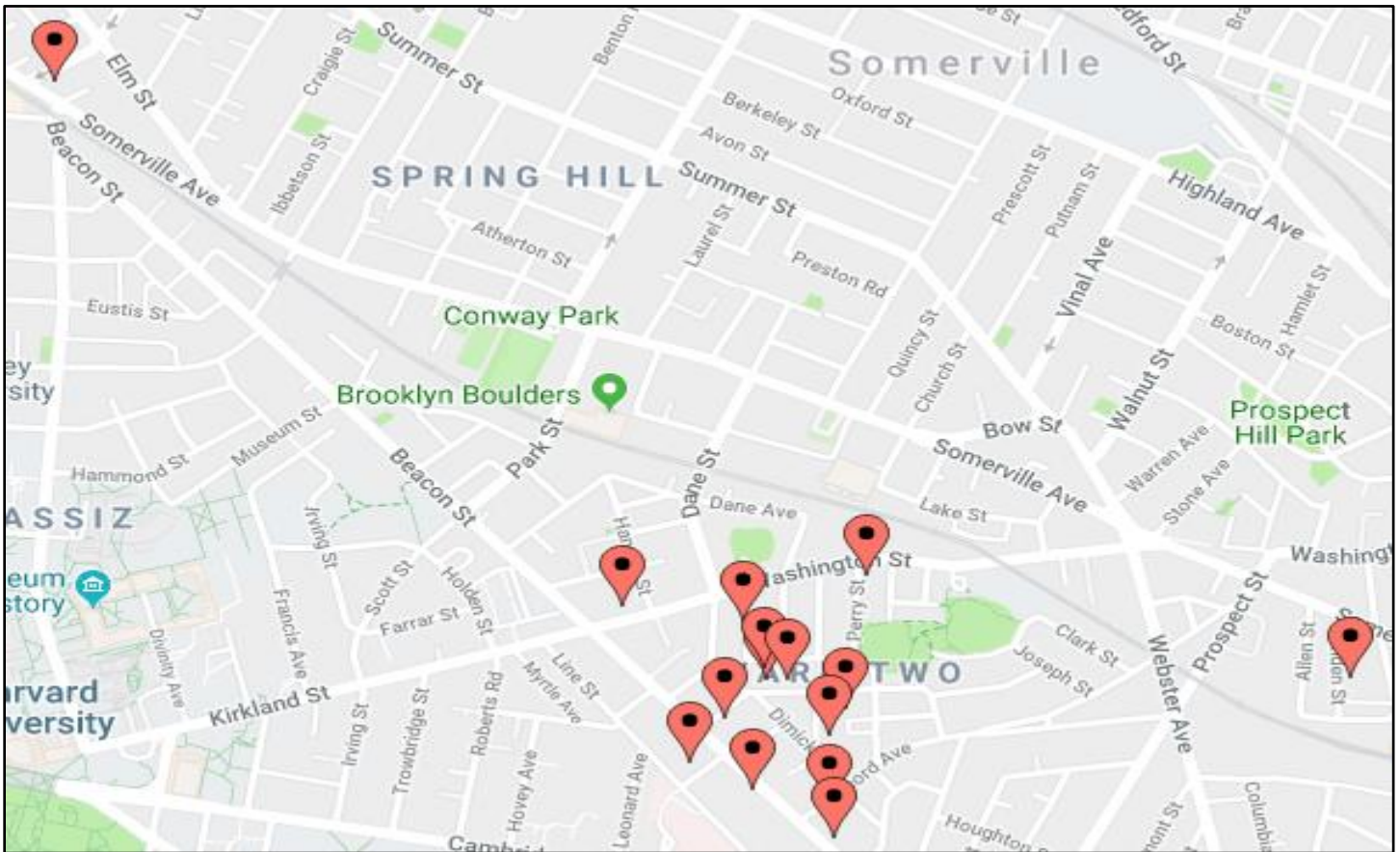
*David Fallon, Chief of Police*



Friday, January 18, 2019

Over the past month, Ward 2 has experienced a small spike in residential house breaks. In response, the Somerville Police Department has taken measures to address prevention as well as conduct robust investigations of each incident. The department has issued directed patrol to enhance police presence in the neighborhood based on timing of previous breaks. All sworn Officers have been provided information relating to geographical and temporal patterns of the breaks as well as investigative details that may aid in detection. SPD Detectives have made strides in investigations and have enlisted the help of the public to identify a possible suspect based on surveillance images.

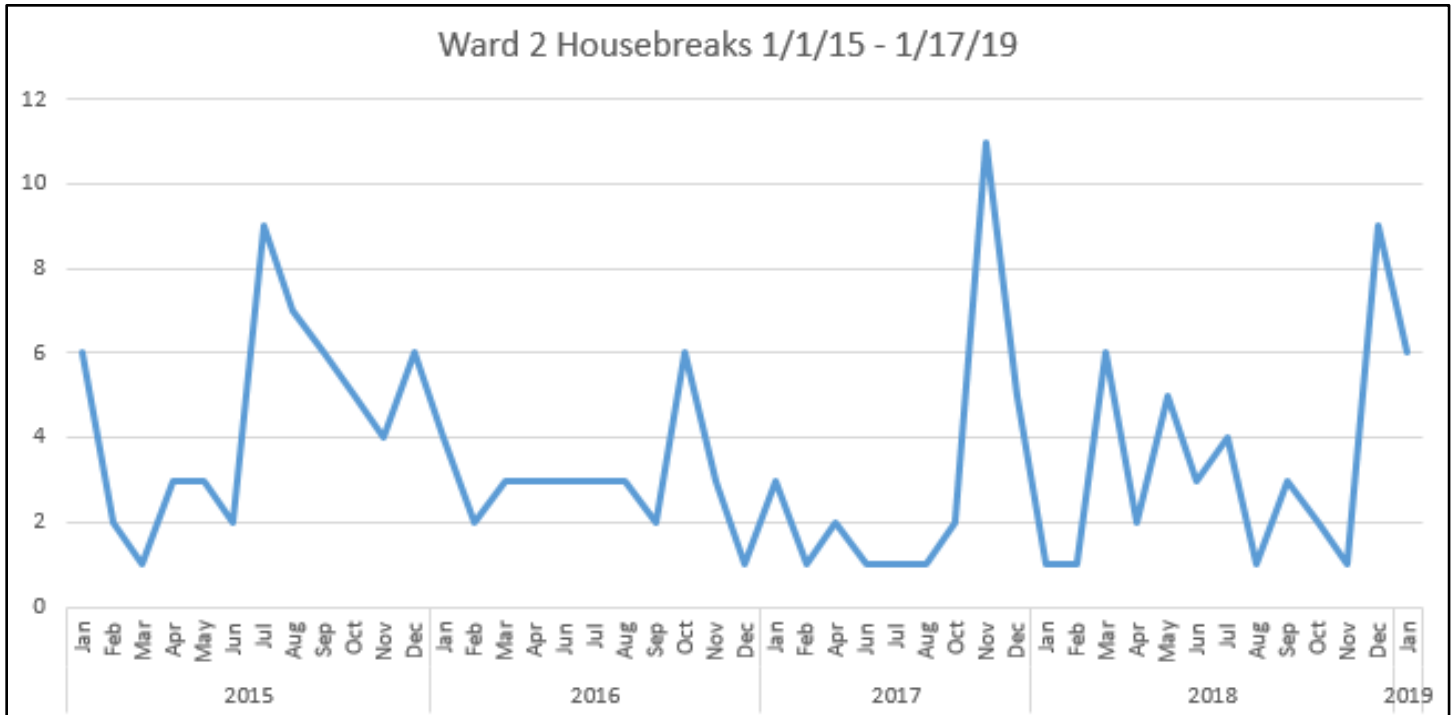
The map below represents the incidents that have occurred between 12/1/18 – 1/17/19.



**INCLUDES SENSITIVE INFORMATION (CORI) – LAW ENFORCEMENT USE ONLY– DO NOT REDISTRIBUTE**

Produced by the Crime Analysis Unit [crimeanalysis@police.somerville.ma.us](mailto:crimeanalysis@police.somerville.ma.us), 617-625-1600 (x7287)

The graph below provides a historical look at the number of house breaks that have occurred in Ward 2 from 2015 to date.



### Prevention Awareness:

The following prevention methods are excellent measures for residents to decrease the chances of being targeted by potential burglars.

- Make your home look occupied. Leave lights on when you're not home and if you leave for an extended period, connect a few lamps to automatic timers so they turn on in the evenings. Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers build up while you're away. Arrange with the Post Office to hold your mail or arrange for a friend or neighbor to take them regularly.
- Keep valuables out of site. Be cautious about what garbage and boxes you set on the street. For example, a flat screen TV box announces to potential burglars that you have a brand new TV.
- Have adequate exterior lighting. A motion-sensitive light is recommended for backyards. Light is one of the best crime deterrents.
- Lock all outside doors (including patio, basement, garage, and shed doors) as well as windows – use deadbolts on outside doors as pushbutton locks are easy for burglars to open. Over 40% of break-ins happen without the use of force. Similarly, do not leave a spare key hidden outside.
- Don't tempt a thief: Lawn mowers, barbecues and bicycles are best stored out of sight and/or locked.
- Register your electronic devices and record serial numbers.