

# City of Lakewood

**Kevin Paletta, Chief of Police**  
**Lakewood Police Department**

March 23, 2009

445 South Allison Parkway  
Lakewood, Colorado 80226-3106  
303/987-7100 Voice  
303/987-7111 TDD  
303/987-7296 Fax

Mrs. Kelli Dahl  
2880 Newland Street  
Wheat Ridge Colorado 80214

Dear Mrs. Dahl:

On the morning of October 15, 2008, Lakewood resident Dale Norbie was at home and looked out a window to see two teenagers, one on a bicycle and the other walking. They seemed to be slowly making their way down Teller Street, possibly scoping the houses out to see if anyone was home.

Mr. Norbie continued to watch the two boys as they walked to the front door of a residence and eventually enter the house through the front door. In checking with other neighbors, Mr. Norbie found that no one was home at the house he had watched the boys go into. Enlisting the help of another neighbor, the home was searched and the two young men were found hiding inside. While the boys were being detained by Mr. Norbie and his neighbor, one broke free and ran from the area.

It was at that time you and your husband, Thad, were driving in the area and witnessed the commotion as well as the boy running away. You and your husband followed the boy and watched as he removed and discarded a pair of gloves before you lost sight of him.

Responding units from the Lakewood Police Department contacted a young man in the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Pierce Street matching the description they had been given of the possible suspect. While the boy was being detained by police, you, your husband, and Mr. Norbie were transported to that location where you were able to positively identify him as the burglary suspect being sought. Both boys were arrested and charged with the burglary. It should be noted that the subsequent investigation conducted by the Lakewood Police Department identified two additional suspects and cleared more than 20 burglary cases.

Mrs. Dahl, your willingness to get involved and your observations assisted in the arrest of those responsible for widespread criminal activity in our city. Therefore it is with great pleasure that I award you with the Lakewood Police Department's Citizen Commendation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Paletta  
Chief of Police



To protect and serve with integrity, intelligence, and initiative

Alternative formats of this document are available upon request



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Mr. Thad Dahl  
2880 Newland Street  
Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80214

Dear Mr. Dahl:

On the morning of October 15, 2008, Lakewood resident Dale Norbie was at home and looked out a window to see two teenagers, one on a bicycle and the other walking. They seemed to be slowly making their way down Teller Street possibly scoping the houses out to see if anyone was home.

Mr. Norbie continued to watch the two boys as they walked to the front door of a residence and eventually enter the house through the front door. In checking with other neighbors, Mr. Norbie found that no one was home at the house he had seen the boys go into. Enlisting the help of another neighbor the home was searched and the two young men were found hiding inside. While the boys were being detained by Mr. Norbie and his neighbor, one broke free and ran from the area.

It was just at that time you and your wife, Kelli, were driving in the area and witnessed the commotion as well as the boy running away. You and your wife followed the boy and watched as he removed and discarded a pair of gloves before you lost sight of him.

Responding units from the Lakewood Police Department contacted a young man in the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Pierce Street matching the description they had been given of a possible suspect. While the boy was being detained by police, you, your wife and Mr. Norbie were transported to that location where you were able to positively identify him as the burglary suspect being sought. Both boys were arrested and charged with the burglary. It should be noted that the subsequent investigation conducted by the Lakewood Police Department identified two additional suspects and cleared more than 20 burglary cases.

Mr. Dahl, your willingness to get involved and your observations assisted in the arrest of those responsible for widespread criminal activities in our city. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I award you with the Lakewood Police Department's Citizen Commendation.

Sincerely,

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Mr. Ronald Graebing  
2525 Teller Street  
Lakewood, Colorado 80214

Dear Mr. Graebing:

On the morning of October 15, 2008, your neighbor, Dale Norbie was at his residence and looked out a window to see two teenagers, one on a bicycle and the other walking. They seemed to be slowly making their way down Teller Street, possibly scoping the houses out to see if anyone was home.

Mr. Norbie continued to watch the two boys as they walked to the front door of a residence belonging to another one of your neighbors, and eventually entered the house through the front door. Mr. Norbie came to your house and asked your wife, Phyllis, if she knew whether the neighbor was at home, to which she replied that she did not think they were. At that point, you and Mr. Norbie went back to the house, and while you waited outside, he entered where he had seen the boys go in.

After searching the house and finding no one Mr. Norbie came back out. He decided to go in a second time and found a bathroom he had not previously searched. In checking the room, both boys were found hiding in the shower.

Physically holding on to each boy, Mr. Norbie escorted them outside where you were still waiting. The two of you actually held onto the boys while awaiting the arrival of police; however one of them broke free and ran from the area.

At that time, Thad and Kelli Dahl were driving in the area and witnessed the commotion as well as the boy running away. They followed the boy and watched as he removed and discarded a pair of gloves before losing sight of him.

Responding units from the Lakewood Police Department contacted a young man in the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Pierce Street matching the description they had been given of a possible suspect. While the boy was being detained by police, Mr. Norbie, as well as Mr. & Mrs. Dahl, were transported to that location and were able to positively identify the juvenile as the burglary suspect being sought. Both boys were arrested and charged with the burglary. It should be noted that the subsequent investigation conducted by the Lakewood Police Department identified two additional suspects and cleared more than 20 burglary cases.



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Mr. Graebing, your willingness to assist your neighbor, your community, and this police department serves as a shining example for others to follow. It is with great pleasure that I award you with the Lakewood Police Department's Citizen Commendation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Paletta  
Chief of Police



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Mr. Dale Norbie  
2530 Teller Street  
Lakewood, CO 80214

Dear Mr. Norbie:

On the morning of October 15, 2008, you were at your residence and looked out a window to see two teenagers, one on a bicycle and the other walking. They seemed to be slowly making their way down Teller Street. You noted that the boy on the bike was looking at each house and felt they may be "scoping the houses out to see if anyone was home."

As you continued to watch you saw the two boys walk to the front door of a residence belonging to one of your neighbors, and eventually enter the home through the front door. You hurried to get dressed and went to yet another neighbors residence, that of Ronald Graebing and Phyllis Vohdra. You asked Phyllis if she knew whether the neighbor was at home, to which she replied that she did not think they were. At that point you and Mr. Graebing went back to the house and while he waited outside, you entered where you had seen the two boys go in.

Calling out for the homeowner you received no response and began searching room by room. Initially you found no one inside and came back out. You decided to go in a second time and found a bathroom that you had not looked in previously. In checking the room you found both boys hiding in the shower.

Physically holding on to each boy, you escorted them outside where Mr. Graebing was still waiting. The two of you held onto the boys while awaiting the arrival of police; however one of the boys broke free and ran from the area.

At that time, Thad and Kelli Dahl were driving in the area and witnessed the commotion as well as the boy running away. They followed the boy and watched as he removed and discarded a pair of gloves before losing sight of him.

Responding units from the Lakewood Police Department contacted a young man in the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Pierce Street matching the description they had been given of the possible suspect. While the boy was being detained by police you, and Mr. & Mrs. Dahl were transported to that location where you positively identify him as the burglary suspect being sought. Both boys were arrested and charged with the burglary.



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It should be noted that the subsequent investigation conducted by the Lakewood Police Department identified two additional suspects and cleared more than 20 burglary cases as the result of this arrest..

Mr. Norbie, your assistance to your neighbor, your community, and to this police department serves as a shining example for others to follow. It is with great pleasure that I award you with the Lakewood Police Department's Citizen Commendation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Paletta  
Chief of Police



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Ms. Phyllis Vohdra  
2525 Teller Street  
Lakewood, CO 80214

Dear Ms. Vohdra:

On the morning of October 15, 2008, your neighbor, Dale Norbie was at his residence and looked out a window to see two teenagers, one on a bicycle and the other walking. They seemed to be slowly making their way down Teller Street, possibly scoping the houses out to see if anyone was home.

Mr. Norbie continued to watch and saw the two boys walk to the front door of a residence belonging to another of your neighbors, and eventually enter the house through the front door. Mr. Norbie came to your house asking if you knew whether the neighbor was at home, to which you replied that you did not think they were. At that point your husband and Mr. Norbie went back to the house while you called the Lakewood Police Department relaying vital information for our responding units.

After both boys were found in the house and being detained by Mr. Norbie and your husband, you stayed on the phone with our dispatchers updating them with new information. While awaiting the arrival of police, one of the boys broke free and ran from the area.

At that time, Thad and Kelli Dahl were driving in the area and witnessed the commotion as well as the boy running away. They followed the boy and watched as he removed and discarded a pair of gloves before loosing sight of him.

Responding units from the Lakewood Police Department contacted a young man in the area of 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Pierce Street matching the description they had been given of a possible suspect. While the boy was being detained by police, Mr. Norbie and Mr. & Mrs. Dahl were transported to that location and were able to positively identify him as the burglary suspect. Both boys were arrested and charged with the burglary. It should be noted that the subsequent investigation conducted by the Lakewood Police Department identified two additional suspects and cleared more than 20 burglary cases.

Ms. Vohdra, your willingness to assist your neighbor, your community and this police department serves as a shinning example for others to follow. It is with great pleasure that I award you with the Lakewood Police Department's Citizen's Commendation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Paletta  
Chief of Police



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