

Subject: My comments about Kildeer/Lake County
Date: Tuesday, October 25, 2011 7:53 AM
From: Msmetana7@aol.com
To: <info@deerparkneighbors.com>
Conversation: My comments about Kildeer/Lake County
Category: DeerPark

I am nervous about Deer Park dropping its police coverage with Kildeer and going with Lake County, because I had a problem with the Lake County Sheriff's Department about seven years ago.

My car had stalled at the base of the Route 53 exit ramp westbound onto Lake Cook. I had three very small children with me. Fast-moving cars also exiting 53 onto Lake Cook (it was top of the rush hour) couldn't see my stalled SUV until they were on top of me. They had to slam on their brakes to avoid hitting me, and I heard tires squealing more than once. Panicked, I called for help, but it took the officer more than 30 minutes to get there. And when he arrived, he parked in FRONT of my vehicle instead of parking behind me and putting on his lights or lighting a flare. Upset, I locked the kids in the car, made my way to his car window, and spoke to him as cars whizzed by. He said he didn't have a flare, roman candle, or orange cone to slow oncoming traffic, so I asked him to move his vehicle behind my SUV and turn his lights on. However, the overweight, lazy officer then said he would not move his police car because - get this - *he didn't want oncoming speeding traffic to hit HIS police car!* I guess he preferred to let speeding cars slam into a carload of children. So much for protecting the public. Needless to say, I was very upset, and I told him so, but the fat slob would not move. He didn't even offer to help me escort the children to safety.

Maybe the Lake County Sheriff Department has cleaned up its act since that day, but I am concerned that this type of poor police service might be what Deer Park is getting. I have no reason to believe otherwise, but I guess we'll just now have to wait and see. If there's any consolation, I'm glad Deer Park only contracted for three years with Lake County in case poor service and slow response times become chronic problems.

That said, I'd like to add that I agree 100% with Deer Park Trustees that the \$1.45 million dollar expense per year for Kildeer police services is exorbitant. Surely, something needed to be done to shave this expense down, and I commend them for addressing the problem. I'm just not convinced that going with Lake County was the best option.

Marlene Smetana