



Congressman John Sarbanes

Congressman John Sarbanes has represented Maryland's Third Congressional District in the U.S. Congress since 2007.

NWCP: Congressman Sarbanes, thank you so much for taking the time to speak with me. I love your on-line Town Hall Meetings! As a constituent, they make me feel very involved and very connected to your work in Washington.

JS: I love them too! We try to do them as frequently as we can as a way to connect with people. It costs some money to do them, but people seem to respond to them very positively. One of the advantages of having your district close is that you can stay connected to your constituents (Congressman Sarbanes lives in Towson).

NWCP: It's well known that you come from a political family; your father was U.S. Senator Paul Sarbanes. At what age did you decide to go into politics and why?

JS: Politics was certainly a possibility in my mind, because I came out of a political family, but I don't think it was necessarily a given that I would go into politics. I practiced law for almost 20 years at the Venable Law Firm. When now Senator (then Congressman) Cardin decided to run for my father's seat and the Third District



opened up, that was the natural occasion for me to step back and say, "Is this something I want to do?" I'm glad it wasn't an easy choice, in that I had done other things professionally for 20 years and had seen that I can make an impact as a lawyer, as a community member working with nonprofits, serving on the boards of various organizations, so I felt like there's a choice I'm making here...giving up one kind of career for another. Ultimately, I decided that being in Congress would be a good opportunity to bring a lot of my interests together in one place and that it would be an effective use of my interests and skills. But it wasn't something I had front and center in my mind until it really kind of came on the scene at that time.

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Project Recourse

Victims of crime are often emotionally scarred and feel victimized. The last thing they need is to be dragged through the Halls of Justice, on a roller coaster ride of emotions, having to relive the traumatic incident over and over again.

That's where Project Recourse, a branch of the NWCP aiding victims of crime, comes into play. New Project Recourse staff member Mr. Jim Sanders is available to guide victims of crime through the process of recovery, preparing them for court, attending the court proceedings with them, and following up for years to come with the victim by petitioning the court to keep dangerous criminals in jail without the chance of parole.



Jim Sanders, Neil (Nachy) Schachter

If you or someone you know has been the victim of a crime and feels the need of assistance at any point in the judicial process, please contact Mr. Jim Sanders at 410-733-5970 or by email at jim@nwcp.info. He will be happy to help.



Abie Eisenbach, Alderman Micheal Murphy

Sherman Park Citizens Patrol (Milwaukee)

Abie Eisenbach, SPCP Coordinator

The Sherman Park Citizens Patrol (SPCP) is a community-driven, volunteer organization working in concert with the Milwaukee Police Department to deter criminal activity within our neighborhood, which is located in Sherman Park. The idea is to deter crime by fielding a visible presence of volunteers trained to be good observers. One of our volunteer patrol people grew up in Baltimore, and his father has been

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Automated Teller Machine (ATM) Crime Prevention

Baltimore County Police

The purpose of this document is to impart basic crime prevention techniques to reduce Automated Teller Machine (ATM) crime. The primary focus of the ATM Crime Prevention Program is user safety. Surveys have shown the reported crime rate at ATMs has changed little over the last decade and that this is a crime of low probability. A person using an ATM is more likely to be the victim of a street robbery or involved in a traffic collision than the victim of an ATM crime. In fact, ATM crime incidents are on a downward trend due to heightened user awareness and prevention applications. There are other considerations that an ATM customer needs to consider prior to selecting and using an ATM.



For example:

- Do not select an ATM at the corner of a building. Corners create a blind area in close proximity to the customer's transaction. Select an ATM located near the center of a building. An ATM further from the corner reduces the element of surprise by an assailant and increases effective reaction time by the user.
- Identify an ATM with maximum natural surveillance and visibility from the surrounding area. This will create a perceived notion of detection by a criminal and increases the potential for witnesses.
- Select an ATM at a location void of barriers blocking the line of sight of the ATM. This includes shrubbery, landscaping, signs and decorative partitions or dividers. Barriers provide hiding areas for would-be assailants.
- Select an ATM that is in a well-lit location.
- Whenever possible, select an ATM that is monitored or patrolled by a security officer.
- Select an ATM with a wide-angle transaction camera and/or a continuous transaction surveillance camera. Consult the bank or location management for this information.
- Solicit criminal activity statistics for the ATM site and neighborhood.

Considerations prior to and during transactions

- Maintain a small supply of deposit envelopes at home, in your car or office. Prepare all transaction paperwork prior to your arrival at the ATM site. This will minimize the amount of time spent at the ATM.
- Maintain an awareness of your surroundings throughout the entire transaction. Do not become so involved with your transaction that you are not aware of changing conditions around you.
- Do not wear expensive jewelry or take other valuables to the ATM. This is an added incentive to an assailant.
- Be aware of anyone sitting in a parked car in close proximity to or at a distance from the ATM location.
- When leaving an ATM location make sure you are not being followed. If you are being followed, drive immediately to a police, sheriff or fire station, crowded area, well-lit location or open business. Flash your lights and sound your horn to bring attention to your situation.
- If you are involved in a confrontation and the attacker is armed with a weapon and demands your money or valuables, **COMPLY!**



Hachnosas Sefer Torah



On Sunday, January 22, 2017, Ohel Yaakov Congregation celebrated a Hachnosas Sefer Torah celebration. Hundreds joined in celebration with music, dancing, and torches to escort the new Torah from



Rabbi Dinovitz's home on Cross Country Blvd to the Shul on Glen Avenue. The procession moved smoothly, with the assistance of the Baltimore City Police liaison officers, organized by the NWCP, supplying security and blocking off the streets.



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NWCP: Your main interests seem to be health care, including protecting the Affordable Care Act, as well as fighting the opioid epidemic, in addition to the environment and education. What are you particularly focused on right now and for the immediate future?

JS: Well, clearly, there's going to be a battle over what the Affordable Care Act looks like going forward, since the new administration and Congress have indicated they want to repeal it. I think there are certainly some things we can do to refine it and make it stronger, but I think it's a mistake to throw it completely overboard. I'll be joining other members of Congress who feel the same way and trying to bring that perspective to the forefront in the coming days. That's the most immediate issue that looms before us. But some of the other things you mentioned are important as well. Preserving the environment, particularly if you're in Maryland, the Chesapeake Bay and the value it provides to us in terms of being an economic engine for this state and region, the various fisheries that we have, and it's just a source of pride for Marylanders. I'm always working hard on the environmental front; particularly encouraging young people to be stewards of the environment and connecting them to the outdoors as part of their educational experience. The opioid epidemic, which you mentioned, continues unabated. We're beginning to take some steps at the federal level to partner with local and state resources to try to address this epidemic that's ravaging the country and I think we're beginning to get a handle on some elements of it. But it's going to be a tough challenge going forward. I put particular emphasis on passing some legislation that would expand the use of Narcan, or naloxone, which is an overdose drug, so at least people can have it close at hand in a situation where there's an overdose, but I certainly recognize that that's just one piece of the problem. You really have to figure



out a way to get people off the drugs and into recovery. We have to look at how these drugs are prescribed, we have to look at the dosage, and we have to look at the clinical trials that are done with these drugs to make sure that on the front end it's being managed in a responsible way. These are all big challenges and that's why it's so important that we find opportunities to keep moving forward with respect to public policy on those issues. The last thing I'll mention is that I'm very focused on the issue of accountability to the broad public. How can Washington be more accountable? How can Congress be more accountable? We need to make people feel empowered and that their voice counts in Washington. So, I've been a very strong advocate of reform and recently took the reins of the Democracy Reform Taskforce in Washington, which is going to focus on enhancing accountability to the American people and, where we see lack of accountability, work that out as well.

Congressman Sarbanes had more to say to the NWCP. Look for part two of this interview in the March edition of The CITIZEN News & Views.

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extensively involved with NWCP for over twenty-seven years. He brought that enthusiasm for a citizen patrol with him to Milwaukee when he moved here recently. SPCP was inspired by the highly successful Northwest Citizens Patrol (NWCP) of Baltimore. NWCP worked closely with SPCP over a period of four months to prepare us for launching our own patrol. Since starting active patrols on December 19th, the SPCP has been making its presence known in the community. Not only have we been reporting possible drug deals and incidents of assault and battery, but we have also been



doing things good neighbors do, such as reporting open garage doors and making friends with other residents of the neighborhood.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 2, 2016

The Honorable Rochelle Spector
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Ms. Spector:

I am pleased to join your family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating you on your retirement.

Your hard work and dedication have helped fulfill important obligations to your community and our Nation, and it is my privilege to join in celebrating your career. The commitment to service you have shown in giving of yourself to lift up others reflects the fundamental American belief that our destiny is shared and we all do better when we look out for one another.

I thank you for all you have done, and I wish you all the best for the years ahead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be that of Barack Obama.

We urge everyone to join the ranks of the NWCP. Especially in these times we need every pair of eyes patrolling our neighborhoods to keep our streets safe. Call 410-664-6927 TODAY!

IS THE IRS CALLING?

"Hello Mr. Brown? This is Investigator Johnson of the IRS. A warrant has been issued for your arrest and forwarded to the Baltimore Police Department. Back taxes, interest and penalties owed are \$7,548.32, but my department supervisor has authorized a one-time forgiveness reduction to \$5,000.00. If you pay that amount immediately, I have been authorized to rescind the warrant..."

Over 100,000 people have received a call similar to this one. The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) has identified approximately 1,100 victims who have lost over \$5 million from these scams.

How Do I Know If It Is a Scam?

There are variations of these scam calls. Callers can be men or women. Some calls are live while others at least start as robocalls. Callers often instruct you not to tell anyone about what's going on and to remain on their cellphone during the transaction. That is to prevent you from being talked out of sending the money by suspicious relatives or wire service workers. The callers try to sound official, sometimes offering badge and case numbers.



Another variation of the scam is targeting college students to demand payment for a non-existent "federal student tax." Callers may claim the tax is connected to student loans and threaten arrest or loss of a college degree if payment is not made right away. In a recent twist, callers say they have your tax return and just need to verify a few details to process it. The scam tries to get you to give up personal information, such as a Social Security number, or personal

financial information, such as bank numbers or credit cards.

How Do I Protect Myself?

Don't be fooled! Scammers may be able to recite the last four digits of your Social Security number. Scammers spoof the IRS toll-free number on caller ID to make it appear it's the IRS calling. Scammers sometimes send bogus IRS emails to support their bogus calls. After threatening you with jail time or driver's license revocation, scammers hang up and others soon call back pretending to be from the local police or DMV, and the caller ID supports their claim.

The IRS and U.S. Treasury never call about tax debts or demand payment over the phone. They communicate via letter, at least initially. Remember, too, the IRS does not use unsolicited email, text messages or social media to discuss your personal tax issue. The IRS will never: 1) call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill; 2) demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe; 3) require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card; 4) ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone; or 5) threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

What Should I Do If Called?

If you get a scam call, hang up. Do not have a conversation with the scammer. Report the call to TIGTA at 800-366-4484 or www.tigta.gov. If you know you owe taxes or think you might, call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you with a payment issue. For more information from the IRS, go to: <https://www.irs.gov/uac/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>.



Quotable Notables - Circuit Court Judge Edward J. Angeletti

The Patrol mobilized the community into a cohesive organization to ensure the safety of the residents and ensure the continuation of our way of life. The Patrol has worked well with the police. The Baltimore City Police Department having an officer assigned to the Patrol ensures that the citizens on patrol are able to be effective. The neighborhood has been much safer as a result of the Patrol. The Northwest Citizens Patrol has served as a template for other communities to put together their own patrols.



Neil Schachter delivering a birthday cake to Baltimore States Attorney Marilyn Mosby. At that meeting they discussed topics having to do with Victim services and assisting other organizations in starting citizen on patrol organizations.

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