

# Crime Round Table Takeaways

**September, 2024**

Did you miss the Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District's September Crime Roundtable? Wish you had notes from the meeting? Here are some important takeaways for you.

On Wednesday September 18, 2024, the Alameda Corridor Business Improvement District held their third Crime Prevention Roundtable of the year, which include business owners, property owners, and residents along the Alameda corridor.

Attendees included FirstBank's Fraud Prevention Team, Belmar's security and asset protection staff, Lakewood Police.

## Topics discussed:

- How business owners can protect themselves from fraud and scams
- How to support Lakewood Police in prevention and apprehending property crimes

## Takeaways!

- First Bank's Fraud Protection team gave excellent insights into trends they are witnessing and how to avoid them, including check fraud, mail fraud, and credit card fraud.
- Be careful with credit card transaction authenticity and identify matching. Know your customers!
- If you can use other methods of accounts payable such as Positive Pay and ACH Filters, don't use checks if you don't have to! Reconcile the checks you do write and make sure they go to the right vendor and that vendor is legitimate.
- Have a good IT program - update software and email protections faithfully.
- Make Fraud Protection a fundamental part of your business culture and values!!
- Join the Lakewood Business Watch program through Lakewood Police to supply them with helpful contact information and camera locations in the city.
- Get a Crime Prevention evaluation with the city

## Next Steps/Next Topic:

Stay tuned on our website for the next roundtable meeting at the start of 2025.

