



## BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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### Media & Public Information Release

#### Burlington Police to begin using community-wide messaging system - NIXLE

Beginning Monday, November 2, 2009, the Department will begin utilizing an electronic messaging system that allows direct communication with interested persons who sign up to receive messages via e-mail, SMS, or text to their mobile device. The service is provided by NIXLE, who is a trusted entity with partners such as National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System, the U.S. Conference of Mayor's, the Council of State Governments, the Police Executive Research Forum, and a host of others.

Messages that will be sent, from time to time, include:

- Traffic – information related to traffic problems or diversions and parking bans
- Community Information – information about meetings that relate to public safety topics
- Advisories – Crime Alerts and Press/Informational Releases (from events in which we are seeking information from the public or a neighborhood that may be impacted by a response or have a recognizable interest in immediate information about an event)
- Alerts - Critical Incident Information – information on major events, emergencies, or things such as Amber Alerts, missing persons, etc.

NIXLE is configured to broadcast to all persons subscribed to the BPDVT NIXLE messaging system or anyone following BPDVT on Twitter. Broadcasts can be configured to occur to all persons subscribed or within a geographic area around a particular address.

Residents, businesses or others interested in following Department NIXLE broadcasts can register securely at **no charge** by visiting: <http://local.nixle.com/city/vt/burlington> or by searching for local NIXLE broadcasts by visiting [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). In the event that members of the public would prefer to follow these broadcasts via Twitter, NIXLE postings are automatically cross posted to Twitter at the following Tweet: <http://twitter.com/BPDVT>. It should be noted that BPD personnel will not be directly posting to Twitter. Rather, messages will be cross-posted via a feature of NIXLE that allows automatic population of the BPDVT Twitter page.

Information about the NIXLE service can be found at [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com). The site provides tutorial information about its operation.

The Department plans to test the use of this system for an initial period of 90 days.