

Guardian Angels Patrol Waldo Neighborhood



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KANSAS CITY, Mo. – A military-style watch group invaded the Waldo neighborhood Tuesday night. The [Guardian Angels](#) want to help prevent attacks by a serial rapist.

They wear red jackets, red berets and use street names like “Real,” “Bear,” and “Big Momma.”

Armed with only flashlights, the group patrolled residential streets in Waldo for several hours.

A serial rapist attacked five women in five months in and around this area, creating fear.

“We’re here to help,” said the group’s leader who goes by the name “Real.” “We’re here to make people feel more secure and that’s what our tactics and methods help us do.”

They are Kansas City’s Guardian Angels. It is a national public safety patrol started 30 years ago by Curtis Sliwa. He created a chapter in the metro three years ago.

Sliwa trained recruits in martial arts and taught them how to make citizen’s arrests.

“If we see a felony happening, it’s in our duty and what we signed up for to do our best to take the person down,” Real said.

Police support the group’s desire to patrol. However, officers warn against private citizens confronting criminals unless a crime is in progress.

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“What we want people to do while they’re out there is to be good observers, to observe and report,” said Captain Rich Lockhart, spokesman for Kansas City Police.

The local Angels have just five members. Still, they are hoping their presence in Waldo attracts attention and interest.

The group said it would patrol other areas of Waldo at night if more people volunteer and if they are invited by neighborhood associations.

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