

EYES ON YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

BURGLARY: DON'T BE A VICTIM!

The most common threat to our homes is a burglary which occurs every 15.4 seconds somewhere in the United States. Burglary is a non-confrontational property crime that occurs when no one is at home. Although burglaries may seem random, they actually involve a selection process. Burglars choose an unoccupied home with the easiest access, the greatest amount of cover, and with the best escape routes. The majority of home and apartment burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away and are committed most often by young males under 25 years of age looking for items that are small, expensive and which can easily be converted to cash.

The following is a list of suggestions:

Sliding-Glass Patio Doors and Windows

- High impact glass provides the most resistance to a burglar
- Use highly visible alarm decals and beware of dog signs
- Keep all drapes and curtains drawn when not home

Lighting and Landscaping

- Use light timers to establish an appearance of occupancy
- Exterior lighting should allow 100-feet of visibility
- Use good lighting along pathways and at your doors
- Keep vegetation low to eliminate concealment points
- Exterior lights should be turned off during the day

Alarm Systems

- Alarm system should be activated every time you leave your home
- Alarm system should have an audible horn or bell to be effective
- Alarm system should be registered with the Police Department

Home Safes

- Protect the safe code and change it occasionally
- Install it away from the master bedroom or closet
- Should be anchored into the floor or permanent shelving

Be a Good Neighbor, Start a Neighborhood Crime Watch

- Get to know all your adjacent neighbors
- Agree to watch out for each other's home
- Pick up newspapers and flyers from the driveway
- Report suspicious persons or vehicles to the Police Department immediately

For more information, contact the Crime Prevention Officer at 305.234.2100.



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