



### **BURGLARY PREVENTION TIPS**

Locking your windows and doors and installing high-quality security locks and exterior lighting are the easiest and most cost-effective ways to prevent burglary.

#### **Prevention Tips**

### **Call 911 for any suspicious activity!**

- Use solid or metal exterior doors that are properly installed. Never use interior doors, which are not as strong as exterior doors.
- Anchor the strike plate to the framing of the house by using 3" long screws.
- Install weather stripping around your doors if the doors do not fit tightly.
- Equip every exterior door with a deadbolt lock (key-in-the-knob locks, by themselves, are insufficient) and engage both the knob and deadbolt locks every time you leave your home.
- Use a blocking device on all sliding windows and doors (a broomstick or dowel placed in the inside track is sufficient).
- Never hide a key outside of your home. Leave a spare key with a trusted neighbor.
- Always leave a light on when you are not home.
- Consider purchasing an alarm system.
- Increase exterior lighting and use motion lights and/or timers.
- Pick up trash from your yard and alleyways and collect newspapers and mail daily. If you go on vacation, have a trusted neighbor or friend do this for you.
- Use "Beware of Dog" or "Alarm" decals to deter suspects from entering your home.
- Trim trees, bushes, and other landscaping to ensure windows and doors are not blocked and criminals cannot use them for concealment.
- Use safes to store valuables and ALWAYS keep a record of your serial numbers.
- Whenever you move into a new home or apartment, always change the locks.



### **Shopping this online this upcoming season?**

Holiday package delivery creates an easy target for porch pirates to do their own shopping. Help protect yourself from package theft.

- Have your packages delivered to a more secure location where someone can receive them in-person. For example: A neighbor who is home, at your workplace or schedule delivery when you're home.
- Encourage your neighbors to watch deliveries and agree to secure each other's packages. This includes being watchful for any strangers who are going onto porches for no apparent reason or following delivery trucks.
- Ask the shipper to hold your package at their facility or pick up in-store.
- Use a secure locker delivery option if available.
- Track deliveries online. Many companies offer a text notification to your cell phone when a package has been delivered.
- Require a signature upon delivery.
- Insure valuable items.
- Provide delivery instructions. If packages are left while you are not home, try to have them left out of sight from the street.

- Consider installing a camera surveillance system. Many cameras include features, such as high-definition resolution and saved images, which can help law enforcement should an incident occur.