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To Serve and Protect

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CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Please remember to report crime and suspicious activity immediately.

The ultimate goal of Crime Prevention is to reduce the risk of being a victim. In order to do this effectively, it is important to remove opportunities for a criminal to take advantage of you or your property.

SEPTEMBER 2010 TIP

Prevent Identity Theft by using the following tips: Do not share personal information on the internet. Do not respond to e-mails that request personal information; this is known as "Phishing" and is commonly used by identity thieves. Shred all items with personal information before you throw them away; identity thieves commonly "dumpster dive" to find identities. Do not keep your social security card in your purse or wallet; keep it in a safe at home.

AUGUST 2010 TIP

Keep this in mind when it comes to summer vacations. Don't advertise your vacation on social networking websites. Only let trusted family members and friends know you will be gone and have them watch your residence while you're gone. Keep a close eye on your entire family and everyone around you while you are on vacation; predators commonly target vacationing spots where there are large public gatherings. Protect your loved ones and personal items carefully.

JULY 2010 TIP

In warm weather months we see an increase in theft of personal property; there is a tendency to leave items, such as bicycles, gardening tools, lawnmowers, weed eaters, and other yard tools lying around in the open. Make sure you lock up your personal property in your garage or yard shed; it doesn't take long for someone to ride by and quickly take your property. An open garage door or yard shed can also be inviting, keep them closed even when you're at home.

JUNE 2010 TIP

Always keep your vehicle locked when it is unattended. Don't keep valuables such as cell phones, lap top computers, purses or wallets inside your vehicle in plain sight; even an empty back pack or bag can be inviting to a thief, they won't know its empty. If your vehicle is equipped with an alarm, use it. If you are a victim of theft/burglary to your vehicle report it as soon as possible.

MAY 2010 TIP

Be careful not to get scammed on the internet. Do not reply to emails from people or businesses you are not familiar with. Do not cash checks or money orders received through an internet transaction without first confirming its legitimacy. If you only follow one rule about avoiding online scams then you should probably make that rule the one that says, "If it sounds too good to be true then it probably is".

APRIL 2010 TIP

With Spring finally here, children will be spending more time outdoors. Always know where your children are at all times and make sure they return home promptly at appointed times. Never leave your children alone in a vehicle, restroom, store, playground, or other public place. Make certain children know their full name, parent's names, address, and telephone number including area code. Talk with children about strangers and the potential dangers associated with them.

MARCH 2010 TIP

The crime prevention tip for March is to never give your credit card number, checking account number, Social Security number, or any personal information to an unknown caller. Just say "no" and hang up on anyone who asks for personal information. Don't ever assume a friendly voice belongs to a friend. Only give your personal information when you have initiated the call and are sure the other party is legitimate.

FEBRUARY 2010 TIP

Lock all doors that access your home or other property while you are gone or sleeping. Set timers for lights if you are gone for an extended period of time. Having lights on when you are gone can give potential criminals the appearance that the home is occupied.