

CRIME PREVENTION SAFETY TIPS

Protect Yourself:

WHEN YOU'RE AT HOME:

- Use good lighting - light exterior dark areas.
- Use good lock security - Use Residential ANSI Grade 2 Security locks. Grade 3 locks are not as strong to prevent forced entry
- Lock all doors and windows whenever your house is unoccupied. Put on your security alarm system whenever you leave the house no matter whether you are going to be gone for a few minutes, an hour, a day, etc.
- Let a trusted neighbor know when you are on vacation.
- Don't advertise when you are not at home. Stop deliveries and have all mail and newspapers picked up.
- Replace or rekey all locks when you move into a new home. Include all exterior doors even the door into house from the garage.
- Install 2" case hardened steel dead bolt locks on all exterior doors.
- Keep windows and doors locked at all times.
- Have curtains or blinds on all windows, and keep them drawn. Don't advertise what you have in your house.
- Install a 190-degree door viewer or door scope in your front door. Look before opening your door to anyone.
- Keep your garage door(s) closed. Again don't advertise what you have in your garage. Change the garage door opener setting from the factory setting.
- Require Identification from all repair persons or public service individuals without opening the door. Take down names and company for future reference.
- Hang up on frightening or obscene calls. Invest in an answer machine or Privacy Manager from the telephone company to screen your calls.

- On your answer machine message, **never** say you're not at home. Just say you're not by the phone.

- If a prowler enters your home, **GET OUT!!** Go to a neighbor and call the police. Call 911!

- If you come home and you think someone is in your home, **DO NOT ENTER!!** Call 911! Go to a neighbor and call the police.

- Contact the SAPD Crime Prevention Specialist and schedule a free home security survey.

WHEN YOU'RE WALKING:

- Always be aware of your surroundings, and the people who are around you.

- Avoid walking alone; either walk with someone, or walk in areas where others are near.

- Stay in well lighted areas, away from alleys, bushes, and doorways. Avoid shortcuts through alleys, parks, vacant lots, or other deserted places.

- Walk in the middle of the sidewalk facing traffic.

- **NEVER HITCHHIKE OR ACCEPT RIDES FROM STRANGERS!!** If the driver of a car stops and harasses you, walk in the opposite direction.

WHEN YOU'RE WALKING TO YOUR CAR:

- If you are walking to your car in a parking lot, and anything makes you feel uncomfortable, **TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS**, go back in the store. Get someone to walk with you to your car.

- When you approach your car, check the back seat and under the car.

- Have your keys in your hand. Enter the car, lock the doors, and drive away.

- **DO NOT SIT IN THE CAR IN THE PARKING LOT AND CHECK YOUR PACKAGES!!!**

- ALSO: If you have a cell phone, carry it with you when walking or driving and be prepared to use it to call for help. Know what numbers to call and be prepared to give your exact location to the emergency operator.