

Sheriff

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Tips to help secure your home.

1. Look around when leaving your home. A burglar may be watching your neighborhood waiting for people to leave.
2. If you see a suspicious person or vehicle call the Sheriff's Office and make note of the tag on the vehicle if possible. A description of the people and vehicles will be helpful when investigating.
3. If only one person leaves the home and shortly afterwards someone you do not know knocks on your door, call the Sheriff's office and report a suspicious person right away. The reason to make this call is that it could be the burglar checking to see if anyone is home prior to breaking in.

What to do when you find that your house has been burglarized.

1. Upon learning that your house has been broken into, exit the residence the same way you entered and call the Sheriff's Office and wait for a deputy to arrive.
2. Someone may still be in your house, exiting your house is safer for you and better for the deputy that will be looking for evidence.
3. Do not touch anything or walk around the residence leave everything as you found it. There is evidence everywhere that could lead to the capture of the suspect. When you walk around the residence you are covering up their possible shoe prints on your floors. When you touch the items in your house you are covering, smudging and ruining possible fingerprints that could be discovered by the deputy.
4. During the investigation remain outside as not to contaminate the residence and lose any evidence that might be found by the responding Crime Scene Deputy.
5. Be patient during the investigation. It takes time for the Crime Scene deputy to respond. It takes time for the responding Deputy to complete his paperwork and a thorough investigation.

We know that it can be hot during the summer and cold during the winter and once a Crime Scene Deputy responds and begins processing the residence, they make sure that an inside room is completed so you can return inside to one room while they complete their investigation.

To recap:

1. Exit your house and call the Sheriff's Office.
2. Do not touch anything or walk around your house.
3. Remain outside during the investigation
4. Be patient.

In an Emergency dial **911**, if there is not an emergency call the non-emergency number to report the burglary at 352-793-2621 or 569-0440



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