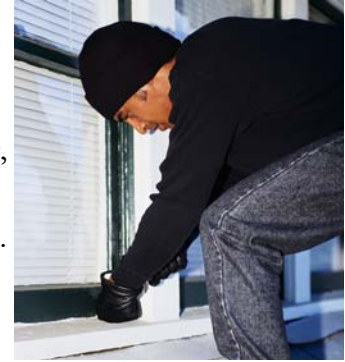




# PERSONAL SAFETY AT HOME

Most burglaries occur during daylight hours between 8 AM to 5 PM, while people are at work, shopping or taking kids to and from school. It only takes 3 minutes or less for a burglar to break in, steal your property and leave.

- Always lock your doors and windows, including the garage door, even if you are home or will only be gone a short time.
- Don't hide your spare key in easily accessible places. Criminals know where spares are hidden



If a burglar can not gain entry into your home in less than 30 seconds, he (she) will move on to the next opportunity.

Statistically, in the US 50% of all burglaries occur using NO FORCE, the burglar just walked in through an unlocked door or window. Burglars may case an area posing as: joggers, someone looking for an address or a friend, etc.

- Be observant and report suspicious people, vehicles, and activities.

Keep license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles in case a crime is committed later; police usually question neighbors to see if they noticed anything unusual.

Burglars may use pillow cases, duffel or gym bags to carry the goods they steal.

- If you are burglarized, check to see if any of your luggage or pillowcases are missing.

**Burglars take things that are easily fenced such as: jewelry, weapons, cameras, MP3 players, DVD players etc.**

- They stay away from marked property because fences won't take them.
- They usually only get 10 cents on the dollar from fences.
- Less than 1% of stolen property is returned to owners due to lack of positive identification.



Mark property in two places. One that's obvious and another that is not.

- Use your driver's license number as an identification number.
- Keep serial numbers and description in a safe place

Burglars target homes that look deserted.

- Make your house look like someone may be home.
- Leave a radio or TV on when you leave.
- Leave lights on if you won't be home before dark, or have lights on timers to turn on at dark.
- Open drapes.

A. Have a trusted neighbor (relative) take in your daily mail and newspapers.

B. If you leave for a weekend or a few days, leave your 2<sup>nd</sup> car in the driveway, or ask a neighbor to park theirs in your driveway while you are gone.

*For further information please call the Sanford Police Department Community Policing Unit at 407.688.5072*