
“Don’t let ‘em knock your block off!”

Want to know the best crime prevention device ever invented?

A GOOD NEIGHBOR!

- Law enforcement officers can’t be everywhere at once, but you and your neighbors can. You’re the ones who really know what’s going on in the neighborhood.
- Put the neighborhood know-how to work. It’s simple: just use your eyes and ears - and then your telephone. If you spot something suspicious, call the police or sheriff immediately.
- Don’t try to stop a criminal yourself - it can be dangerous.
- Neighbors working together in cooperation with law enforcement make one of the best crime fighting teams around.
- For more information on how to start your own **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP** - contact the El Centro Police Department at (760)352-2111.

“Don’t let anyone tell you that Neighborhood Watch is an excuse to be nosy. In three communities of Long Beach, California, active Neighborhood Watch program resulted in a 45 percent reduction in residential burglaries!”

For further information on this program and other crime prevention material, write to:

Crime Prevention Center
Office of the Attorney General
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

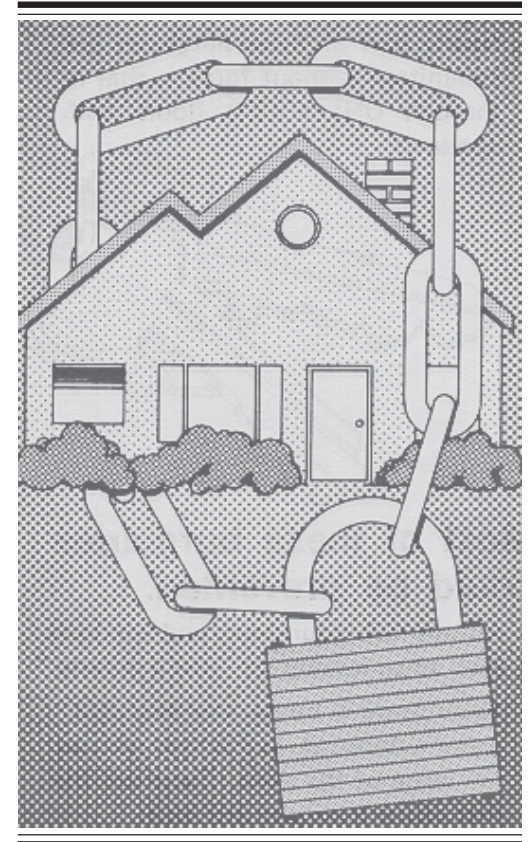
or

El Centro Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit
150 North 11th Street
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 337-4517



We support the National Citizens
Crime Prevention Campaign.

Home Security



The facts about burglary . . .

- In 2000, there were more than 240 residential burglaries in the City of El Centro and more than six million in this country.
- Nearly half of these burglaries are committed without force - that is, through UNLOCKED doors and windows!



Most of these burglaries could be prevented.

- Always lock your doors and windows even when leaving for “just a minute.”
- Never leave a house key available: under a doormat, in a flower pot, on the ledge of the door. *These are the first places a burglar will look.*



If you would like to make life even harder for crooks - Remember the following tips:

- Exterior doors should have “dead bolt” locks with a 1 inch strong metal bar extending into the door frame.
- Sliding doors and windows should all have “ventilation” locks as well as auxiliary locks to bolster security.
- Be sure to include good locks for garage, cellar, patio or other doors that lead out through storage areas or a spare room.
- For more information on locks, contact El Centro Police Department at (760)352-2111 or your local locksmith.

Going Out ?

- Lock all doors and windows.
- Use timers so that lights, radio, T.V., go on and off throughout the house to indicate someone is home.
- For longer trips be sure to stop mail and newspaper delivery or have a neighbor collect them daily.
- IN SHORT - MAKE YOUR HOME LOOK “LIVED IN”.

Remember, if you come home and see a broken window or a jimmied door, don't go in. Confronting a burglar can be dangerous. Phone the Police Immediately.

Other tips

- Install a wide-angle lens viewer in the front door. Never open the door without knowing who is there.
- Consider alarm systems or trained security dogs for additional protection.
- Whenever you move to a new home, have the locks changed.

Operation I.D.

Another deterrent to “would be” burglars is Operation Identification.

- Mark your valuables with your California Driver's License number preceded by the letters “CA.”
- Post Operation I.D. stickers in your doors and windows to warn housebreakers to stay away.



- Burglars don't want marked merchandise because it is difficult to fence and evidence of guilt if they are caught.
- So mark your items as conspicuously as possible without defacing them.
- Photograph those items that cannot be engraved (jewelry, silverware, antiques).
- Operation I.D. also facilitates the return of stolen property when it is recovered.