

Personal Safety starts with you!

Crime is on the rise. Preparation and education are key elements to keeping yourself and your family safe. Become a tough target!

In The Home

- Keep doors and windows locked at all times
- Keep the exterior of your home well lit
- Be aware of men posing as service personnel attempting to gain entrance to your residence. Always ask for identification and then verify by calling their office to confirm.
- Install a security alarm
- If anyone asks to use your phone, offer to make the call for them.
- When you arrive at home have your keys ready before approaching your door, once you open your door, go inside immediately, avoid leaving it ajar
- If you arrive home and you suspect someone has broken in. **DO NOT ENTER!** Call the police from your cell phone or a neighbor's house, the burglar may still be inside.
- Make sure your house numbers are visible from the street so emergency vehicles can easily find your home.
- Make sure you have strong locks on your doors—deadbolts that extend an inch and a half are preferred.
- Install a wide angle viewer in the door.
- If someone tries to break into your home while you are inside, immediately call 911. If possible, leave the house, if you are not able to get out of the house lock or barricade yourself inside a room.
- Create or join a Neighborhood Watch group.

Apartments/Condos

- Never allow strangers such as salespersons, solicitors, or delivery persons to enter your building or the secured parking area without proper screening. Be sure signs are posted to this effect.
- Do not loan your keys to friends; reduce the number of keys in circulation.
- When moving into a new apartment or condo make sure the locks have been changed
- If someone is coming into the gate or building behind you, quickly shut and lock the door or gate after you enter. It may be obvious to them that you are shutting them out, but your safety comes first.
- Do not leave the entry door propped open especially if you are making more than one trip.
- When inside the elevator, stand by the buttons so if someone you are not comfortable with gets on you can hit the “door open” button and quickly get off.
- Do not get on an elevator if you are uneasy with the person inside. Wait for the next car.
- If your building has a garage with an automatic gate or entry system, do not be too quick to drive off. Let it close behind you. And, when you drive in make sure no one slips in before

Lanai Doors

Intrusion is not just a ground floor or corridor door threat. Always lock balcony doors when you are away from home. Equip balcony doors with the same type of deadbolt locks recommended for corridor doors. There is special hardware to secure sliding balcony doors but a simple, effective, inexpensive solution is a sturdy piece of wood in the door's track to prevent the sliding door from opening. Make sure the sliding part of the door can't be lifted from its track.

Items on the balcony are also vulnerable to theft. If thieves see valuables on a balcony — such as bicycles — they will climb a ladder to steal them. Conceal and secure items you cannot store inside. Lock bicycles