



# ***COUNTRY CLUB HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT***

3700 w. 175<sup>th</sup> PLACE

**COUNTRY CLUB HILLS, IL 60478**

PHONE: (708) 798-3191

FAX: (708) 798-1211

## **Crime Prevention Tips**

### **Home Burglary**

By far, the most common threat to our home is burglary. According to the FBI, a burglary occurs somewhere in the United States every 15.4 seconds. By definition, the crime of burglary is a non-confrontational property crime that occurs when we are not at home.

The majority of home burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away at work or school. Burglaries are committed most often by young males under 25 years of age who are looking for items that are small, expensive, and can easily be converted to cash.

High on the list of favorite items:

- cash
- jewelry
- guns
- watches
- laptop computers
- flat screen televisions
- video games
- other small electronic devices

Quick cash is needed for living expenses and drugs.

Statistics tell us that 70% of the burglars use some amount of force to enter a dwelling, but their preference is to gain easy access through an open door or window. Ordinary household tools like screwdrivers, channel-lock pliers, small pry bars, and small hammers are most often used by burglars.

Although home burglaries may seem random in occurrence, they actually involve a selection process. The burglar's selection process is simple - choose an unoccupied home with the easiest access, the greatest amount of cover, and with the best escape routes.

Your Country Club Hills Police Department cannot function effectively without the concerned assistance of responsible citizens. We are depending on you to call and report all suspicious persons or activities.

Some people fail to call us simply because they are not aware of what seemingly innocent activities might be suspicious. Others may notice suspicious activity and be hesitant to call out of fear. Still others take it for granted that somebody else will call. You are assisting the police, not bothering them, when you report suspicious activity. Basically, anything that seems even slightly "out of place" or is occurring at an unusual time of day could be criminal activity.

WE CARE, WE WATCH, WE CALL POLICE when...

- You witness a stranger entering your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied may be a burglar.
- You hear the sound of breaking glass or wood.
- You hear the sound of a barking dog.

Be mindful of...

- Persons around the neighborhood who don't live there could be burglars.
- If someone is going door to door in your neighborhood, watch for a while. If, after a few houses are visited, he or she tries the door, looks into the windows, goes to the side of the house or into the backyard, it could be a burglar. Call the Police immediately (911)!
- Suspicious activity could be someone carrying property at unusual hour, or in an unusual location, or the person is running with the property.
- Parked, occupied vehicles containing one or more persons could be possible "look-outs" for a burglary in process, or other illegal activity.

If you suspect a crime occurring or about to happen, notify the Country Club Hills Police by calling 911.