

# What Is a Burglary?

- Burglary involves a person entering your home or vehicle and taking your property without your permission



- In Palm Beach County thousands of vehicles and homes are burglarized every year.
- Most of them are left unlocked with valuables inside.
- If a stranger comes to your house, ask for identification and don't let anyone in your home that you don't know.

# Don't Make It Easy...

## ***For Thieves to Steal Your Goods!***

- Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition even if its just for a minute.
- Always roll the windows up and lock the car, even if its in front of your home.
- Never leave packages or valuables like your wallet or purse in the vehicle, take them with you.
- Always park in a well lit area around other people.
- Be aware of your surroundings and people in the area.



# How Can You Help?

Call...



You can remain anonymous  
1-800-458-8477

***Sheriff Ric L. Bradshaw  
wants all citizens to be safe.  
Please take special care this  
Holiday season and  
throughout the year to secure  
your property.***



*Provided by the Palm Beach County  
Sheriff's Office.*

# Don't Be a Victim!



**Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office**

3228 Gun Club Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

**(561) 688-3000**

# Tips for a Safe Holiday Season

## If You're Out for the Evening

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- Lock all doors and windows when you leave even for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.
- Close blinds or draperies so no one can see in your house.

## If You're Traveling

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your house.
- Have your mail and newspaper suspended.

## If You're Shopping

- Stay alert and aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well lit area and be sure to lock your car doors and windows.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash, pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Never leave your purse in a shopping cart.
- If shopping with the kids, teach them to go to a security guard if you get separated.



# Keeping Your House Safe

## Lighting

- It is one of the most cost-effective deterrents to burglary. Indoor lighting gives the impression that a home is occupied. Outdoor lighting can eliminate hiding places.



## Shrubs and Landscaping

- Landscaping should provide maximum visibility to and from your house. Trim shrubs that could conceal criminal activity near doors and windows.
- Cut back tree limbs that can be used to climb into windows or on to a terrace.

# Doors and Windows

- Entry doors should be well lit and have a viewer so you can see who is outside without opening the door.
- Always keep doors and windows locked, even a five minute trip to the store is long enough for a burglar to enter your home.
- To improve security on sliding glass doors, place a piece of wood or metal bar in the track to prevent it from being opened even if the lock is jimmied or removed.

***Make time to ensure that you are not a victim and have a safe and happy holiday season.***