

*Sheriff*  
Lake County



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## **Home Security Tips**

The below list contains some of the measures that you as a homeowner can take to help reduce crime in your neighborhood. Please share this information with your neighbors!

### **HOME SECURITY TIPS**

- Keep exterior lights on at night! The criminals rarely commit burglaries, thefts and criminal mischief in a well-lit area!
- Keep your homes well locked, with deadbolts.
- Do NOT have a hidden key kept outside, the criminals know the common areas to look, so don't assist them in making entry into your home.
- Keep you cars in the driveway (not on the street), **locked** with all valuables out of sight from plain view. Remove firearms from vehicles at night!
- Do NOT keep a remote garage door opener in your car if you are parking it outside, the criminals will use it to make easy entry into your home, after breaking into your car.
- House numbers – please ensure that they are reflective, minimum of 2.5 inches and try as a community to all have them posted in the same place at your homes. This will greatly increase emergency response efforts from the Sheriff as well as Fire and Emergency Medical Services.
- Keep your garage doors closed. An open garage door invites criminal activity.
- Serial numbers and photos of valuable property; make a list and have it available for law enforcement in the event of a burglary. Use your smart phones to assist.

- Lawn care tools; don't leave them unattended while working around your yard. Again, it is an invitation for criminal activity. It is that time of the year.
- Guns; keep them secure in your homes, locked in a safe preferably or secured with a locking mechanism.
- Don't advertise your absence. Never leave a message on your answering machine that says you are away for a few days or on vacation. Social media applies as well.
- Before leaving your home, set timers so that lights, TVs, and radios go on and off. Have someone pick up the mail, pick up newspapers, set out trash, mow the lawn, for examples!

Questions, comments and concerns may be relayed to **Lieutenant Mark R. Stauffer** at [mark.stauffer@lcsso.org](mailto:mark.stauffer@lcsso.org) or please feel free to stop by your Lake County Sheriff's Office, Minneola District Office located in the City Hall building at 800 N. U.S. HWY 27, Minneola Florida 34715. 352.394.3598