



Residential Burglary Prevention Information



➤ **How your report is handled:**

- When you make a report of a theft to Ceres Police Department, the initial report is taken by our Patrol Division. All Felony thefts are then sent to our Records Division to be processed and routed to the Investigations Division.
- Reports sent to Investigations Division are reviewed by the Investigations Supervisor and assigned to one of our Property Crimes Detectives for review and possible follow-up investigation.
- If you obtain any information which would tend to identify a suspect or lead to recovering your property, please DO NOT act on this information yourself.
 - Call the Ceres Police Department at 209-538-5712. Please provide us with your name and case number.

➤ **Residential Prevention:**

- Make your home look occupied and make it difficult to break in.
- Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time, lock your doors.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evenings and off during the day.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers build up while you're away. Arrange with the Post Office to hold your mail, or arrange for a friend or neighbor to take them regularly.
- Arrange for your lawn to be mowed if you are going to be away for an extended period of time.
- Check your locks on doors and windows and replace them with secure devices as necessary.
- Pushbutton locks on doorknobs are easy for a burglar to open. Install deadbolt locks on all your outside doors. Sliding glass doors are vulnerable. Special locks are available for better security.
- Other windows may need better locks. Check with a locksmith or hardware store for alternatives.

- If you see something, say something. Report all suspicious persons and activity to the Ceres Police Department.
- Take an inventory of your valuables including serial numbers and photographs. If the items do not have serial numbers, an owner applied number or marking is just as important.
- Alarm systems are another good deterrent. If you have a system make sure you use it and it is working properly. If you don't contact an alarm company. All alarm companies are required to be licensed by the California Department of Consumer Affairs Bureau of Security and Investigative Services. Alarm companies must also have a City of Ceres Business License.
- Watch your neighborhood. Call the police when something or someone does not look right.
- When possible, invest in a quality safe. If you purchase a smaller lock-box type of safe, attempt to secure it so it cannot be carried away.