



Leaving for Vacation: Protect the Security of Your Home



A Crime Prevention Message from the Glendale Police Department

- Before you leave for vacation be sure you physically check and secure all windows and doors.
- Make sure the windows and doors are locked and the shades/blinds are drawn. Use thumb locks and pins on windows and arcadia doors.
- If you have sliding doors, make sure that you place a metal bar or wooden stick into the track so the door cannot be slid open by an intruder. Also make sure the door cannot be lifted up off the track.
- Always make it seem like you're home, even though you're not. Leave a small radio on broadcasting talk radio.
- Leave your interior lights on and set a timer to have them come on at various times.
- Make sure all of your valuables are videotaped and marked using Operation Identification-your local library or Police Station can help.
- Keep any valuables out of plain view. Spread the risk of valuables by hiding them in various locations throughout the home.
- Please consider putting valuables such as jewelry, large sums of cash, and important documents in a safe deposit box.
- Be sure to never announce your absence on an answering machine or via a door note.
- Never post you are going to be gone on Facebook or Myspace.
- Be sure you'll be getting no deliveries while you're gone.
- Please don't leave keys in the usual hiding places-the bad guys know where to look.
- Also, get your trusted neighbor to remove any flyers solicitors might leave, or your newspaper deliveries.
- Have the post office hold your mail or have someone else pick it up for you until you return.
- Tell your apartment manager you're going out of town and ask them to watch your home. Grant the manager permission to enter in case of an emergency.
- When you get back from your trip, be sure you inspect your home upon your return. Look for signs of entry or missing items. If you notice anything out of place, be sure to call the police immediately. It's a good idea to wait outside the home until help arrives and when they do be sure to allow them to collect fingerprints.

**For questions, please contact your Community Action Team at:
623-930-3380**