

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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## **Summer is a Hot Season for Vacationing! Glendale Police Want to Help You Keep Your Home and Property Safe.**

**GLENDALE, Ariz.** – Just this last week, while a Glendale family was away on vacation, their home was burglarized by four suspects who entered their home through an unsecure, broken window at the residence. Over \$10,000 in property was taken by the suspects, including a family vehicle. During proactive patrol, a Glendale Police Officer observed a traffic violation and suspicious behavior by one of suspects in the stolen vehicle. The Glendale Police Officer initiated further investigation into the incident and through the diligent work of several Glendale Police Officers, all four suspects were successfully located and apprehend. This family was fortunate in that officers were also able to recover all the stolen property that had been removed from the residence.

No one wants to come home from a fun, relaxing vacation to find their home has been the target of criminals! Home security is an important part of any vacation planning. Prepare for your weekend getaway or extended vacation with a little extra vigilance that will help keep your home and belongings safer while you are away. The Glendale Police Department suggests the following five preventative measures that will help you avoid being a tempting target for criminals during the vacation season:

- ***Lock All Doors and Windows*** – Sounds simple, but just like the example above, it is the one thing that many families fail to do. All it takes is one unlocked window or broken latch to allow easy access for criminals. Also, remove all spare keys you may have hidden on the exterior of the home.

- ***Ask a Friend or Family Member*** – Have a friend or family member regularly check on your home while you are away. If available, also notify your neighborhood watch program.
- ***Hold Mail and Stop Deliveries*** – Have your mail held at the post office and stop all newspaper deliveries. Do not have packages delivered to your home while you are away. If you regularly have flyers and free press left at your home, have a friend or neighbor remove them.
- ***Maintain the Norm*** – Do not do anything outside of your normal, daily practice. Do not close your curtains if you typically leave them partially open. Do not leave your TV and lights on 24/7. Consider investing in timers that will turn your lights and electronics on and off during scheduled times of the day.
- ***Don't Tip Off Criminals on Social Media*** – Be very careful about announcing on social media your vacation plans. Even if you believe your 200 friends on Facebook won't rob you, be aware that criminals are pros at compromising security measures and may access your account and information. It is a good practice to wait until you are home from vacation to post your pictures and vacation activities.

Don't let the anticipation of a well-deserved vacation blind you to potential risks. A little extra vigilance goes a long ways in protecting your home and property while you are away having a relaxing or adventurous vacation! The Glendale Police Department wishes you a fun and safe summer vacation season. For more tips and information, visit our website at [www.glendaleaz.com/police](http://www.glendaleaz.com/police) , follow us on Twitter @GlendaleAZPD and download our free mobile "MyPDApp" in the Android or iPhone marketplace.

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*\*Spanish translation available*

*“The Glendale Police Department’s mission  
is to protect the lives and property of the people we serve.”*

*Glendale Police Department  
a proud recipient of CALEA National Accreditation since 2000*