



HOME INVASION SAFETY



The crime of home invasion is a frightening and potentially dangerous crime. Home invasion is when an intruder(s) forces their way into a residence with the specific intent to attack the occupant(s) for the purpose of theft, attack, abduction, or worse.

Common Methods Used for Home Invasion

DECEPTION - This is where the suspect(s) will try to trick the resident into opening the door by claiming a fake emergency, a sales pitch, a package delivery, telling you they have damaged your car, etc. Once the resident opens the door, the suspect(s) will force their way inside.

FORCE - The suspect(s) will actually kick-in or smash-in at the point of entry into the home. This could be the front home door, a side or back door, or the door leading into the home from the garage. The resident can be taken completely by a frightful surprise when this occurs.

STEALTH - The suspect(s) gain entry quietly into the home and then confronts the resident inside the home. The homeowner is completely unaware that entry has been made until the confrontation.

GARAGE - This where the suspect(s) either follows someone home and then confronts the resident. The suspect(s) also could drive through a neighborhood seeking a person arriving home, in their garage, or opening the garage door. This allows the suspect immediate contact with the resident and forces their way inside.

Here are some tips to include in your family safety plan:

Have rules and a plan. This is especially important for children. Everyone in the household should understand what is acceptable and not acceptable safety behavior. Create a family safety plan that includes how to handle unexpected visitors and/or a knock at the door.

Do not ignore a knock at the door. Always have a verbal response - especially children. Teach kids how to handle these door knocks. The idea is to let a visitor know someone is home. A vacant home will be more vulnerable to criminal opportunity. Do not feel pressured to open the door.

Visually verify. Checkout who is knocking before answering or opening the door. If the person(s) is unknown to you, do not open the door. Do not react any differently if the knock comes from a woman. If someone does not go away, call someone.

Security door hardware. Have upgraded security doors and locks. Security screen doors or a barrier that keeps you at a safe distance when answering /opening your front door is recommended

Adequate Security Lighting. Good lighting around your property is always a plus.