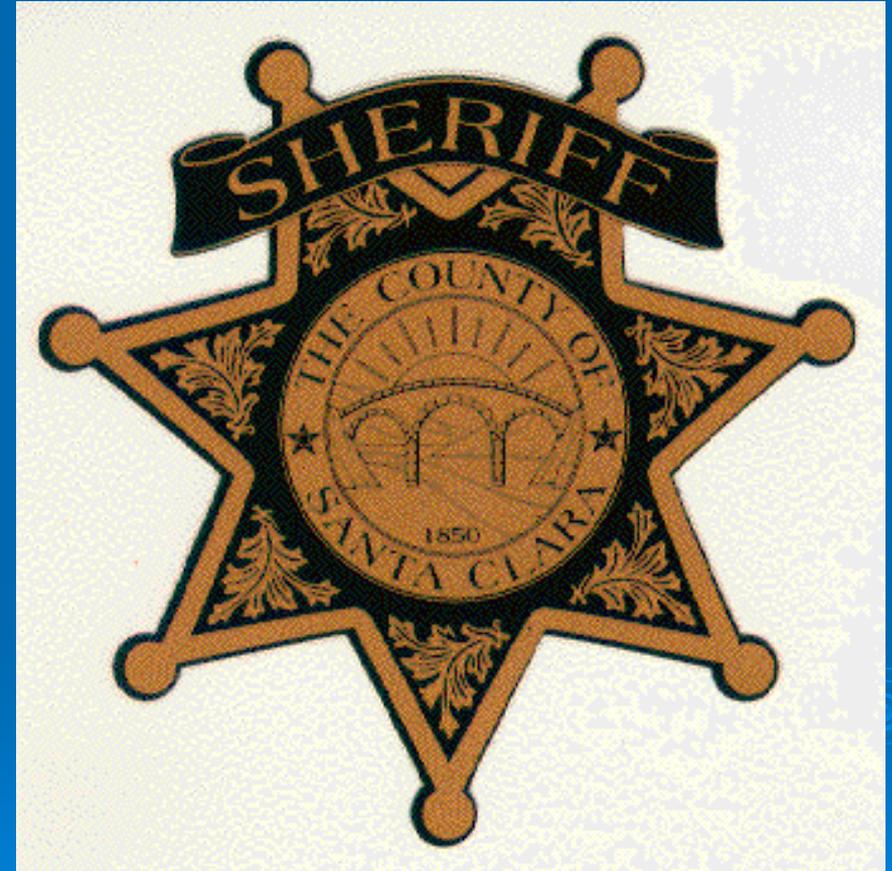
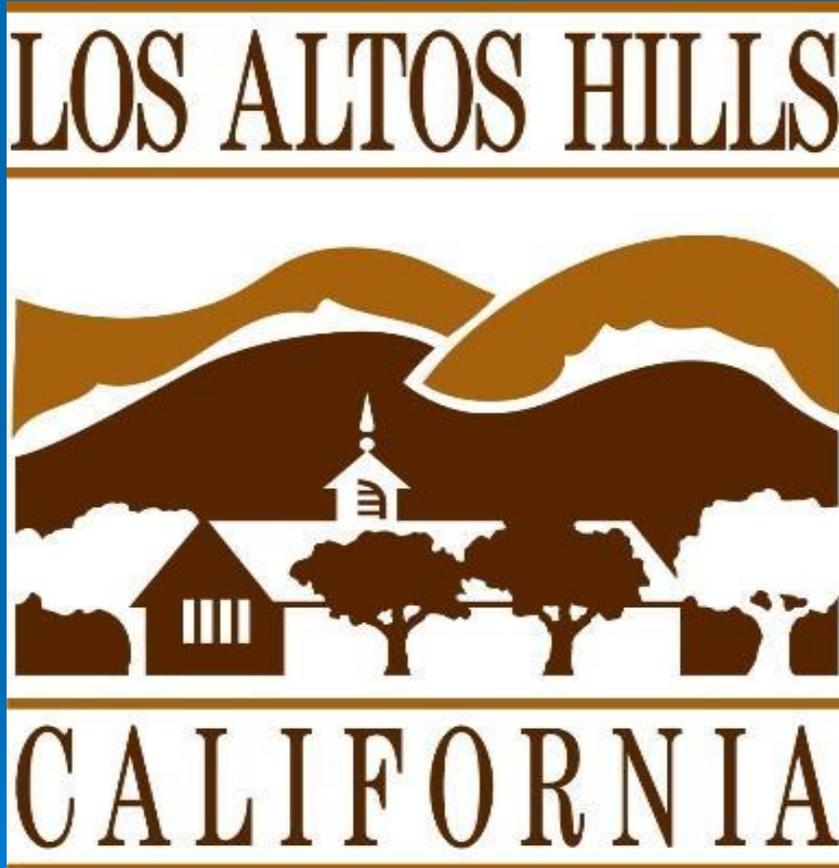


Los Altos Hills Crime Prevention Forum



Help 9-1-1 Find You Fast!!



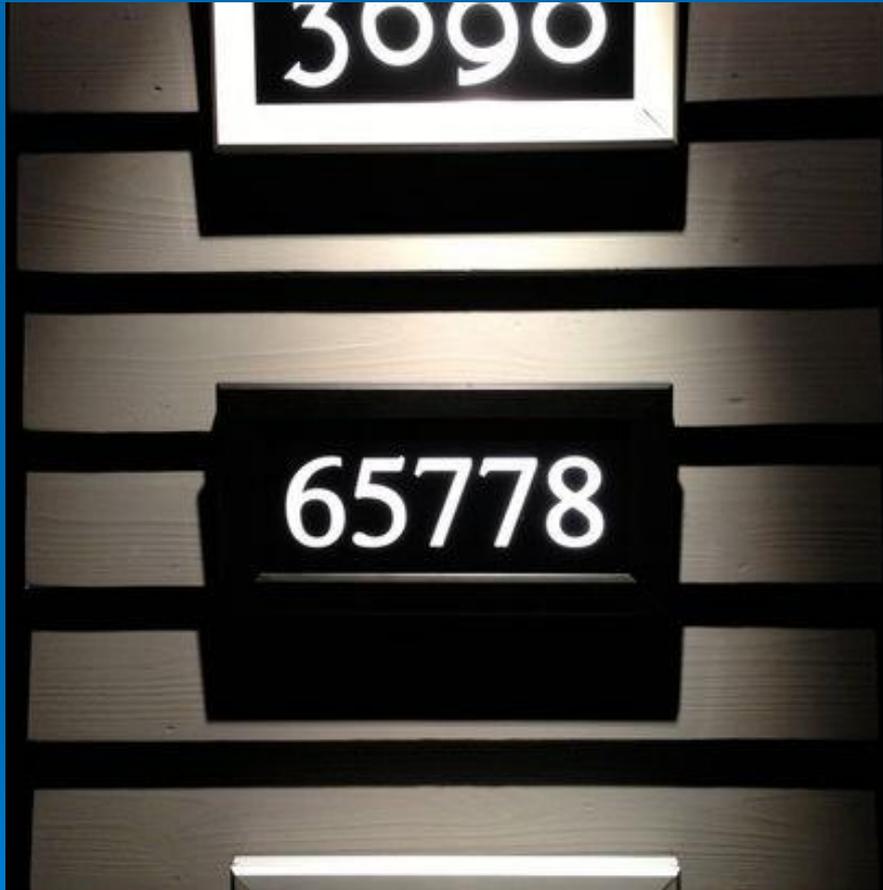
Help 9-1-1 Find You Fast!!



Help 9-1-1 Find You Fast!!



Help 9-1-1 Find You Fast!!



Preventing Home Burglaries



Doors and Locks

- Change the locks when moving into a new residence
- Keep your doors locked at ALL times
- Consider having a wide-angle (180°) door viewer installed in the entry door
- NEVER hide a key outside (don't let burglars use your spare key)
- If you suspect your residence has been entered, **DO NOT** go in. **Call 9-1-1!** Notify Sheriff's Office immediately!
- Remain outside at a safe location.

Windows/Lighting

- Secure and lock windows when not in use and anytime you leave your residence, including upstairs windows
- Close blinds and curtains after dark, avoid advertising your expensive property/purchases
- **LIGHTS** - All entry ways should be well lighted, including backyards. Consider **motion activated lights** or timers.
- All exterior lighting must comply with Los Altos Hills lighting policy
- **LANDSCAPING** – Trim plants from doors and windows for visibility, don't give criminals a place to hide
- **PROPERTY LIST** – Engrave valuable property (telephone number), photograph jewelry, art & collectibles, list serial numbers – take a video (insurance claims).

Alarm Systems

- Turn them **ON!!** They are useless unless they are on.
- Make sure all contact info is up to date with Alarm company
- If out of town/state/country, make sure alarm company has a local person to contact if deputies need someone to respond

Alarm Systems

- Give alarm company gate code so deputies can make quicker entry to property



Leaving for Vacation

- Let neighbor know when you will be gone
- Place vacation hold on mail at Post Office, or have neighbor pick up mail
- Install/Set timers on lights in house
- Update alarm company with local person to contact during your time away
- You may contact Sheriff's Office for vacation check request

Vacation

- Do not leave travel documents in locations visible to others, (gardeners, maids, pool cleaners etc.)
- Do not post pictures on Social Media, (AKA advertising no one is home)

Lock it or Lose It

- The more you do to keep your home from looking like an easy target, the safer the home usually is.
- In 2012, the confirmed point of entry in 38% of the residential burglaries was through open or unlocked doors or windows. (May be as high as 64%!) 

Solicitors/Strangers At Your Door

- **RESPOND** to the “knock” by talking through the door. By not responding, the person may assume no one is home & they may try your doors or go around back ...
- Never open your door for a stranger
- If a delivery or repair person arrives without notice, do not let them into your home. Verify with their company.
- If they refuse to show ID or company states they don't have appointment scheduled, **Call 911**
- Teenagers looking for a lost pet (excuse)

Solicitors/Strangers At Your Door (cont.)

- In the Town of Los Altos Hills, all solicitors are required to have a permit, issued by Town Hall. Ask to see it.
- Solicitation permits are only valid Monday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Post a “No Soliciting,” “Soliciting Prohibited,” “No Soliciting Allowed” or “No Solicitors Allowed.” sign
- Los Altos Hills Municipal Code 5-4.07 does not allow any person to solicit or attempt to solicit on your property if proper signs are posted.
- Those soliciting for Religious, Political, Charitable, or Educational purposes are exempt from requiring a permit and restrictions

Protecting Your Vehicle



Auto Burglary Prevention

- **Crime of opportunity!**
 - Don't bring attention to your car. It's an invitation to a break-in. Take valuables (ie. Laptops, purses, and GPS devices) with you; or lock them in the trunk.
 - If you have a garage, use it. Lock your garage door. Lock your vehicle even if it's in the garage.
 - Always lock the doors.
 - Park in well lighted and busy areas.
- 

Personal Safety

- Be alert to your surroundings & the people around you
- Whenever possible, travel with a friend
- Walk confidently, and at a steady pace
- Make eye contact with people when walking
- If you carry a purse, hold it securely between your arm & body
- If you feel you are in danger, don't be afraid to run or scream
- Keep your cell phone charged and activated
- **Do NOT** get consumed in your cell phone!!

Scams!!

- IRS – back taxes owed
 - Sheriff's Office calling to collect money to clear arrest warrants
 - A relative has been arrested and needs bail money
 - You WON the Lottery!!
 - Identity Theft
- 

First Line of Defense

- Los Altos Hills first line of defense is YOU, the citizen
- Know your Neighborhood
 - Your Neighbors
 - Your Neighbors' vehicle

First Line of Defense cont.

(What can you do?)

- Call and report any suspicious activity
- Be a good witness
 - Location
 - Activity
 - Suspect
 - Vehicle “**CLAMMS**”
 - Do Not Confront

Good Witness Checklist

Your Location

- Give the dispatcher your exact location.
- Allow the dispatcher to ask questions.
- Do not hang up until directed by the dispatcher.

The Activity

- What is the suspicious activity?
- Where did it occur?
- When did it occur?

Good Witness Checklist (cont.)

SUSPECT

- Gender
- Approximate age
- Race
- Height and weight or build type
- Skin tone
- Clothing description (hat, coat, shirt, etc.)
- Hair color and style (including facial hair)
- Eye color and shape, glasses
- Tattoos, scars, birthmarks
- Weapons (gun, knife, stick, walking cane)
- Direction suspect fled to and how?
- Suspect's identity (if you know)
- Other distinguishing features

Good Witness Checklist (cont.)

VEHICLE

Remember the acronym

“CLAMMS”

C = Color of car

L = License plate number

A = Additional distinguishing features
(stickers, special rims, body damage)

M = Make (Ford, BMW, Mini)

M = Model (2-door, 4-door, truck, SUV)

S = State of license plate if not CA

How many occupants?

Last direction of travel

Crimes of Opportunity

- For the most part, if you can take away a criminal's opportunity, you can stop the crime.
- An organized block/neighborhood is generally in a better position to deter, deny, delay criminal activity (if you are divided, you are more easily conquered).

Neighborhood Watch Program

- Go to National Neighborhood Watch Institute website www.nnmi.org or call (888) 669-4872
- Order a “How to Start (and Maintain a Healthy) Neighborhood Watch Program” handbook.
 - The handbook will walk you step-by-step through the creation of a Neighborhood Watch Group

Neighborhood Watch Signs

- Neighborhood Watch signs may be ordered through the National Neighborhood watch Institute.
- You need to contact the Town traffic department to determine what kind and size of signs
- You need approval from the Town if posting signs on public roadways

Neighborhood Watch (cont.)

- The Neighborhood Watch program is created, run, and maintained by you and your neighbors
- The “How to Start” handbook has many meeting and event ideas to get your group started and to stay active

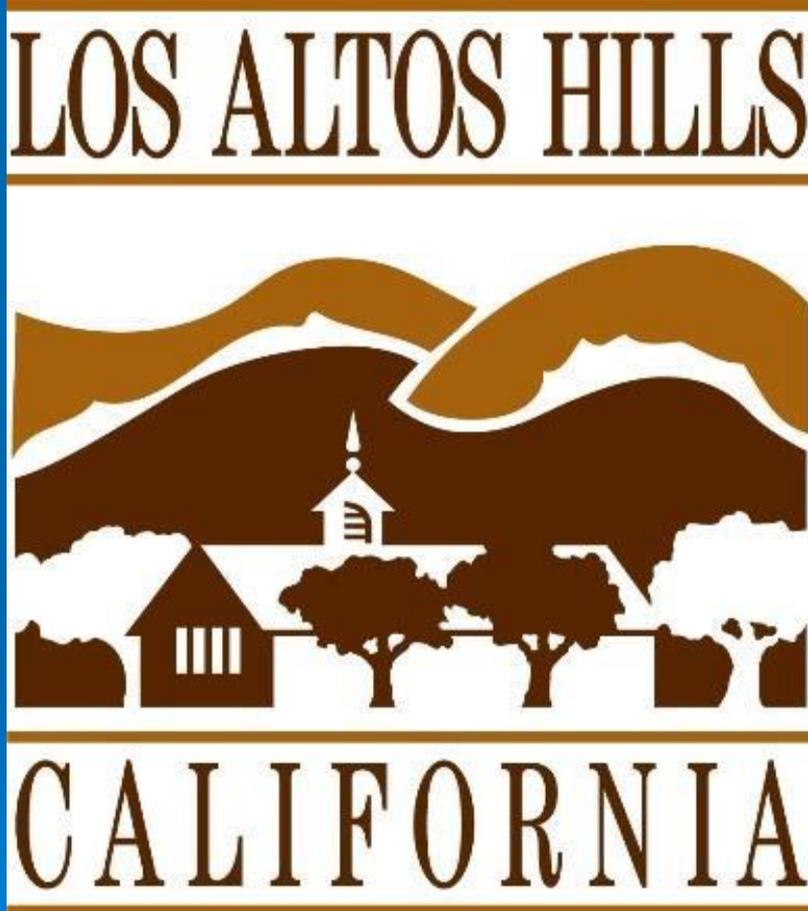
In Conclusion

- Remember: Criminals are generally lazy! Be aware of and prevent against **Crimes of Opportunity!**
- Lock your doors and windows (House/vehicle)
- Turn on Alarms and keep info up to date
- Secure all valuables in a secure location out of sight in a vehicle
- Be aware of your surroundings and who is around you
- A well lit area is an undesirable environment for criminals

In Conclusion (cont.)

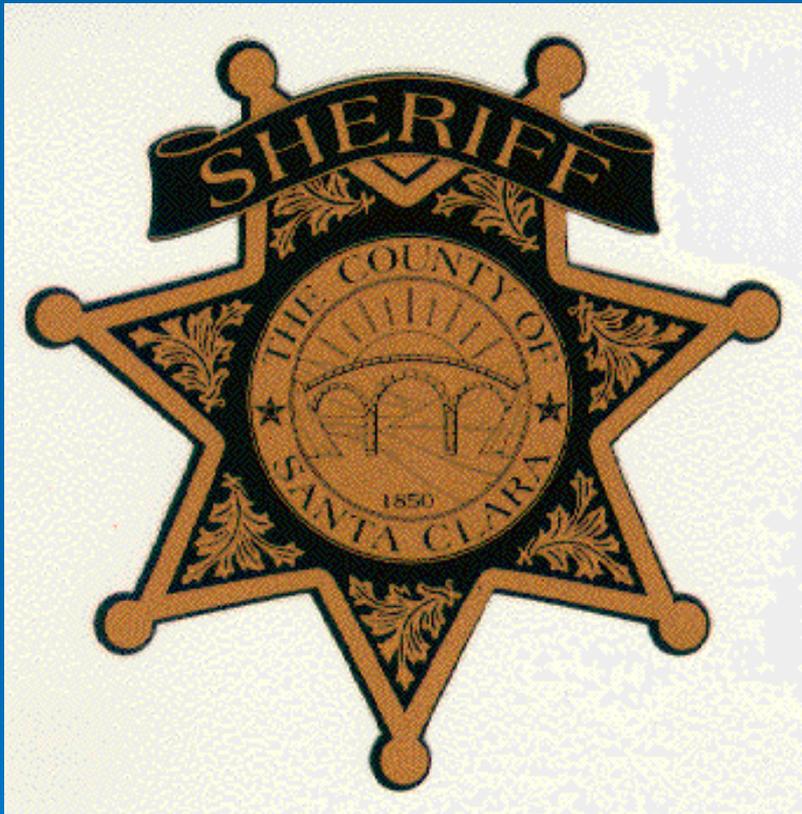
- Be alert to unusual or suspicious behavior or activity.
- We want to know about suspicious activities in your neighborhood. You are the best person to know.
- Call 9-1-1, as soon as possible. Don't hesitate by over-thinking it. We need the information as you see it.
- Never place your personal safety or the safety of those around you in jeopardy. Make a mental picture of the suspect(s) and/or vehicle.
- Never confront the suspect(s). Do not follow suspect(s)
- **Be a good witness** not a potential victim.
- Do not become a Victim of a SCAM.

Resources



- Losaltoshills.ca.gov
- (650) 941-7222
- Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00
- Closed 12:00-1:00

Resources



- West Valley Substation
(408) 868-6600
8am to 5pm
- [Sccsheriff.org](http://sccsheriff.org)
- Crimereports.com
- Emergencies **CALL 9-1-1**
- Non-emergency dispatch
(408) 299-2311