

# CRIME PREVENTION TIPS

Scott County Sheriff's Office

120 N. Hamilton St.  
Georgetown, KY 40324  
Phone: (502) 863-7855

Criminals choose easy targets. Learn how to protect your HOME, YOURSELF, and your PROPERTY.

## HOME



- Exterior doors should be solid wood or metal
- Replace original door locks with more secure deadbolts. Use longer screws to secure strike (at least 3").
- Place bar/broom handle in sliding door tracks.
- Close your garage door when not in your immediate view.
- Lock door from garage into your house.
- Keep your porches, entrances, and garage well-lit and windows free of shrubbery.
- Keep window curtains closed at night.
- Keep unused doors and windows locked, even when you are inside.
- Consider installing an alarm system.
- Do not hide door keys outside.
- If you're absent overnight, leave random light(s) on and notify trusted neighbors.
- If you're absent for an extended period, suspend newspaper and mail delivery. Arrange for yard care. You may contact the Sheriff's Office to request a residence check.

### Potential scams:

- Schemes that require you to put up "good faith" money, prepay taxes on a prize, etc.
- Investments that promise unusually high returns
- Home repair costs well below the norm
- Services requiring cash only payments or payment before work begins
- At-home business opportunities that require money down
- Callers claiming to be from the IRS, Court Clerk, etc., requiring payment over the telephone to avoid the call recipient being arrested
- Hang up on any demanding or suspicious callers

### Easy targets:

- Do not open your door to strangers
- Keep your wallet in an inside jacket or front pocket
- If you carry a purse, hold it close to your body. Never leave your purse in the shopping cart.
- Do not display large amounts of cash in stores or public places. Don't put your wallet or purse on the counter while you examine the merchandise.
- If the attacker is only after your valuables, don't resist. Make a conscious effort to get a detailed description of the attacker and immediately call 911.

### Avoid identity theft:

- Hang up on unsolicited phone calls asking for personal information and do not use any telephone numbers they give you.
- Research all persons or companies before doing business with them.
- Do not place personal mail in your home mailbox (take it inside the post office).
- Shred personal documents before discarding.
- Do NOT open emails from unknown sources, or click any link contained in suspicious emails.
- Check bank accounts, credit card statements, and credit reports frequently. Credit reports are available free of charge at [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com).
- Use credit, not debit, cards for online purchases.
- Look for https (not http) on a URL (website address) to ensure the connection is secure.
- Be aware of "phishing" schemes.

## YOURSELF



SCOTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, TONY HAMPTON, SHERIFF

## YOU CAN ASSIST LAW ENFORCEMENT BY REPORTING ALL SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Criminals choose easy targets. Learn how to protect your HOME, YOURSELF, and your PROPERTY.

### Property: Valuables

- Don't keep large amounts of cash at home.
- Consider paying your bills electronically.
- After purchasing high value items (electronics, etc.), do not place the empty boxes on the curb prior to your garbage collection day.
- Keep a list of makes, models, and serial numbers of valuable items (electronics, firearms, lawn/yard equipment, power tools, etc.). Keep the list in a secure location separate from the items. Photograph jewelry and heirloom items.
- If you suspect a burglary has occurred, do NOT enter the house. Go to a safe location and call 911.



### Property: Vehicles

- Lock your car doors.
- Keep valuables in trunk or at least out of sight.
- Park cars inside the garage whenever possible.
- Use lock nuts on expensive wheels.
- Never leave keys in the ignition when you leave the car, even for a few minutes.
- Have your car key in hand as you approach your vehicle. Look in the front and back seats before entering the car. If there are suspicious persons near your vehicle while away from your residence, return to the store or a public place.



### Report Suspicious Activity:

- Someone screaming or shouting for help.
- Someone looking in windows of houses and parked cars.
- Property being taken out of houses where no one is home.
- Vehicles moving slowly with no apparent destination or without lights.
- Anyone being forced into a vehicle.
- Anyone unknown sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child.



### How to Report:

- EMERGENCIES: 9-1-1
- Non-Emergencies: (502) 863-7855 (answered 24-hours a day)
- Provide your name and address.
- Explain what happened.
- Describe suspect/suspicious persons: sex, race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, and any distinctive characteristics.
- Describe any vehicles: color, make, model, license plate, and unique features.
- Take cell phone photos, if possible, and share those with law enforcement.

**SCOTT CO SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**TONY HAMPTON, SHERIFF**  
**120 N. HAMILTON ST.**  
**GEORGETOWN, KY 40324**  
**TELEPHONE: (502) 863-7855**  
**WWW.SCOTTSHERRIFFKY.COM**

SCOTT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, TONY HAMPTON, SHERIFF