



Kingman County Commission

Fred Foley, County Commissioner District #1
Carol F. Voran, County Commissioner District #2
John Steffen, County Commissioner District #3

Kingman County Courthouse, 130 N. Spruce, Kingman KS 67068
Office of the County Clerk: Phone: 620-532-2521 / Fax: 620-532-5082

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For more information, contact Nancy D. Borst, 620-532-2037 / nborst@kingmancoks.com

Kingman County Sheriff offers new crime prevention tool

The Kingman County Sheriff's Office is participating in a new local crime prevention program that encourages citizens to mark their valuable property, making it less attractive to thieves.

The program, "Operation Identification – Helping You Protect Yourself Against Crime," will offer two electric engravers for check out free of charge. Mark anything of value that a burglar could remove by engraving the letters "KS" followed by your driver's license number. The idea is to warn thieves away, so mark as conspicuously as possible without defacing items.

Everyone who participates also will receive Operation ID stickers for exterior doors/windows. This will warn would-be thieves that valuables are marked for easy identification. For more information, call the Sheriff's Office, 532-5133.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice statistics, a U.S. home is broken into about every 15 seconds. Every home is a potential target – it could happen to you. Are you renting? Renters are 50 percent more likely to be victims of burglary than homeowners.

Protect your family and your belongings. Take a look at these helpful tips you can use to make your home less appealing to burglars.

Lock all doors, windows, garage doors and garage interior doors at all times. Make sure your windows and doors have adequate locks that are in good condition.

Keep all garage doors closed at all times. Thieves will grab and dash even in daylight.

Install motion sensor lights. This is an affordable, easy solution that makes your home less attractive to intruders.

When you leave, don't advertise that you are going on vacation. Don't send e-mails, post information online or provide information of your whereabouts on social media sites. You never know who is watching. Notify local law enforcement with when you will be leaving and your return time, as well as who has keys and permission to be there.

Ask your family and roommates to always lock doors and to keep them locked. They should also always keep track of their keys to prevent someone from stealing them.

Place lights and radio on a timer when you are gone. This is an affordable, easy solution that makes your home less attractive to intruders.

Keep a record of all your property, document make, models and any numbers on the items. Photograph each room and all items in the room. Keep copies of inventory in other places such as a family member's house. Review/update records each year.

Mark anything of value that a burglar (or two) could remove from your premises. Sample items are bicycles, binoculars, cameras, clocks, power mowers, personal computers, kitchen appliances, musical instruments, guns, fishing gear, stereos, televisions, stereo systems, tools and cellular phones.

Notify law enforcement and neighbors of any suspicious activities. It is suspicious when a person comes to the door looking for someone you never heard of. Call and report this to law enforcement.

Get a security system for your home. You could receive discounts on your homeowner's insurance just by having a security system.

Know your neighbors and ask them to watch your home and offer to watch theirs. Join the neighborhood watch group or start one.

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