

CRIME WATCH NEWS

Volume 2 (2008)

Published quarterly by Coral Gables Citizens' Crime Watch



2007—2008
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CRIME WATCH NEIGHBORHOOD SIGNS

Following the neighborhood Crime Watch meetings, if you do not have CRIME WATCH signs posted in your neighborhood, we will arrange for the signs to be posted in the area. You can contact the Crime Watch office, at 305-441-5760, FAX 305-446-0148, or e-mail crimewatch@coralgables.com

CORAL GABLES CITIZENS CRIME WATCH
Your neighborhood or business association can arrange to host a Crime Watch meeting by contacting the Crime Watch office.
Telephone; 305-441-5760 or 305-442-1600, Ext: 4153
Fax: 305-446-0148 or email: crimewatch@coralgables.com

VEHICLES CRIMES: Help us help you in protecting your vehicle and the property left in the vehicle. Never leave the car keys in the ignition, let alone the motor running. Even for that "minute" when you run back for the one item you forgot or just to cool off the inside because it is hot out.

Always roll up the windows and lock the car, even in front of your residence.

NEVER LEAVE VALUBLES IN PLAIN VIEW, even if the car is locked. Put valuables in the trunk or at least out of plain view. Don't leave change in the ash tray. Theft from cars are crimes of opportunity. Try to park in well lit areas.

Carry your registration, and insurance card with you. Do not leave personal information, this includes credit cards, in the glove compartment

EXTRA PROTECTION FOR YOUR VEHICLES

Contact the Community Affairs Unit of the Coral Gables Police Department, to set an appointment to have DATA DOTS placed on your vehicle parts. Community Affair or Crime Watch personnel can place DATA DOTS on the parts of the vehicle that are required for registration in the national data bank in case of theft of parts or theft of the vehicle. DATA DOTS replaces the old system of Vehicle Identification Number (VIN), etching. Call today and set your appointment to have your vehicle DATA DOT'ed.

Some insurance companies give discounts.

Use the mechanical locking device, more commonly know as the Club. This locks to the steering wheel, to help prevent the steering wheel from being turned more than a few inches.

BE AWARE AND BE ON THE LOOKOUT

Approach your car with the key in hand. Look around and inside before getting in. When driving keep your car doors locked and windows up at all times.

Be especially alert at intersections, gas stations, ATMs, shopping malls, convenience and grocery stores...these are all opportunity for carjackers.

If your car is stolen, report it to the police immediately. Carjacking—stealing a car by force—has been in the news in the last few years. Your chances of being a carjack victim are very slim, and preventive actions can reduce the risk even more. If you become a victim of a carjacking, give up the car with no questions asked. Your life is worth more than a car.

Coral Gables Police can provide more information and help arrange Neighborhood Crime Watch Meetings. Let us all work together to prevent crime.

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We're on the web!
www.crimewatchcoralgables.com

RESIDENTIAL SECURITY SURVEY

A residential home security survey is offered by the Coral Gables Police Department and Coral Gables Citizens Crime Watch. **The survey highlights the areas of perimeter, exterior and interior security, including lighting, landscaping, windows, locks and alarms. Emphasis is placed on integrating the use of these components to achieve a safer home environment.**

If you would like to schedule an appointment for a home security survey, please contact Coral Gables Police Department, Community Affairs Unit at 305-460-5401 OR

**Coral Gables Citizens Crime Watch Office
305-441-5760 OR 305-442-1600, Ext. 4153.**

ON OUR WAY TO HOLIDAY TRIPS

USE CAUTION AT AIRPORTS :

Keep luggage locked and in sight;

Put your identification inside your luggage as well as outsides.

BE ALERT AT YOUR HOTEL

Carry your room key at all times and the room locked.

Leave valuables in the safe, don't try to hide them in the room

CHARITIES: Tips for Giving

We want to help to reduce your chances of being a victim. Please review our suggestions for a common-sense precautions before contribute to a charity.

TIPS FOR GIVING

Some organizations names are very similar to other well-known organizations. Know who is asking you for money.

Ask questions, Why, What, Who is the organization serving. Answers must be satisfactory before you donate.

Be wary of emotional appeals. Be suspicious vague plans for dispersing the funds.

Florida law gives you the right to request and receive a copy of the organization's financial report before you donate.

Not all organizations are true charities eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions. Ask for the organizations federal tax-exempt number. If the organization does not have a tax-exempt number you will not be able to legitimately claim your contribution as a tax deduction.

Some solicitors use pressure and may even offer to send someone to pick up your do-

nation. Reputable organization's are happy to receive you gift tomorrow as today.

NEVER give cash. Contribute by check that is payable only to the organization, not to an individual.

Some organizations have 900 telephone numbers. When you call the number, the cost of the call is automatically billed to your telephone account. Be sure you know the cost of the call before dialing.

Organizations soliciting contributions are required to register with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service. This registration is a way for you to obtain information about the organization. Registration does not ensure the reputability of an organization.

If a organization cannot show proof of registration with the state of Florida, report this to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services by calling 1-800-HELPFLA (1-800-435-7352)

All organizations soliciting contributions in the State of Florida are required to register. The State does not approve or endorse specific organizations.

YOUR NEVER TO OLD TO BECOME A VICTIM !

BEWARE OF CONFIDENCE GAMES

Pigeon Drops ...A person finds a wallet full of money and offers to share it with you, if you will put up a like amount as "good faith" money.

BANK EXAMINERS

You are enticed to withdraw money from your bank account in order to help catch a dishonest bank employee. Or you will receive a telephone call advising the bank is verifying your accounts. They will require to verify your information, such as, your social security number, your account numbers, checking and / or savings. Your complete name, mailing address, as it appears on your account.

LOTTERY TICKET SCAM

You are asked to supply "good faith" money to a person who claims they are unable to cash a winning lottery ticket. The subject will say, they are not able to may the claim because they owe back income tax and