WHAT CAN I DO ABOUT CRIME AT MY BUSINESS?

SECURITY MEASURES YOU CAN DO

- Make sure you have good quality locks on all doors and windows. Use 3 inch screws on all door hardware so thieves can’t kick doors in too easily.
- Security film on windows makes it harder for thieves to break in, yet it leaves the window clear to see through, so your neighbors and others passing by can see in.
- If you use security cameras, make sure they are good quality, are vandal proof, and that there is enough light to show clearly what is happening. Video should be backed up on tape or to a hard drive that is accessible.
- Light your business carefully outside. The best light is even light, no shadows or dark spots, and not too bright! Too much light is dangerous, and often does not help us see better.
- Make sure your address numbers and business name are clearly visible day and night from the street for emergency responders (and customers!). Display emergency contact information on the front and back of your business.
- Control how cars use your parking lot. Use a chain or gate to close and lock all entrances when your business is closed.
- Make sure you can see what is happening inside and outside of your business! Move posters to keep windows clear.
- Protect your property! Keep your cash amount low all the time, empty the register at night, and remove items of value from sight when you leave.

WORK TOGETHER TO BE SAFE

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS!
Small business owners and workers sometimes work alone in the building. Usually that is okay, but sometimes it’s not safe. We recommend:
- Getting to know other people who work nearby
- Letting neighbors know if something doesn’t look right
- Encouraging each other to call 9-1-1 when it is necessary

GET TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL RESOURCES!
- Monthly public safety forums: 3rd Tuesday of every month - please email timothyha@seattlechinatownid.com
- Friends of Little Saigon: https://flsseattle.org | info@flsseattle.org
- Chinatown International District Business Improvement Area: https://cidbia.org | info@cidbia.org
- SCIDpda: scidpda.org | info@scidpda.org
- seattle.gov/police/onlinecrimemaps.htm
- Community Police Team Officer Gulpan (206) 615-0421 Judinna.Gulpan@seattle.gov
- spdblotter.seattle.gov

Practical Crime Prevention Tips for Your Small Business

Ask your local officer about the “Conditions of Entry” program or visit: www.seattle.gov/police/prevention/business/trespass.htm
# WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WHEN A CRIME IS COMMITTED AT YOUR BUSINESS?

**DURING:**

- **Don’t argue or resist.** It can make things worse and put your safety at risk.
- **Cooperate quickly and completely.** Robbers are unpredictable, and may not be able to think clearly or communicate effectively if they are on a drug, or are too nervous.
- **Pay attention to the person’s physical appearance** - this will be valuable information for the police. Height and weight? What color eyes? Any tattoos? What kind of clothes and shoes are they wearing? Are they wearing any jewelry like earrings, rings, or necklaces? Any other physical features that can help identify them?

**AFTER:**

- **Call 9-1-1 immediately!**
- **Alert your neighbors** they should be extra careful, and if they noticed anything unusual, can help police by describing what they saw.
- **Don’t touch anything the robber has touched,** and leave things in place, just as the robber left them.
- **Write down anything you remember about the person and the incident** - these memories can fade quickly, and capturing them on paper can be helpful for any prosecution that may happen later.

# DON’T MAKE YOUR BUSINESS AN EASY TARGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>DOs</strong></th>
<th><strong>DON'Ts</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clean and clear windows</td>
<td>Old, faded, torn posters on walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean walls and sidewalks</td>
<td>Posters covering windows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short and trimmed plants or bushes</td>
<td>Piles of leaves or other kinds of trash left in front of business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business signs that are clear and inviting</td>
<td>Broken signs and lights, or damaged building parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take ownership of the outside space around your business</td>
<td>Low hanging trees that can block your view and create shadows.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keep the entire area outside your business clean, even the back</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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# DETER BURGLARS AND SHOPLIFTERS

- Good lighting that shows what is happening inside and outside of your business
- Clear views into business that make it easy to be seen
- Low shelves that are positioned to be observed easily
- Height markers on all exits
- Door chimes on all entrances including back doors
- Friendly staff who look at each customer, say hello, and might even remember them

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Seattle Neighborhood Group | [www.sngi.org](http://www.sngi.org) | (206) 323-9666