



MARION COUNTY PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE BURGLARY ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY TEAM



WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR VALUABLES...?

MARK / ENGRAVE YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY

The Burglary Enforcement Strategy Team (B.E.S.T.) Prevention Program recommends marking/engraving certain valuable property with unique Personal Code as a mean of discouraging burglary and theft. If stolen, your property can then be easily traced and identified as yours. This practice has shown dramatic results in its ability to reduce burglaries and theft in communities where has been properly implemented.

For items you cannot engrave, you may want to consider marking them with invisible marking ink that can be seen under UV light. Although the invisible marking pen may not deter the burglar taking the item, it can greatly add to identification of items recovered. You should remember though that the ink can be washed off and will dissipate within three years.

Do not engrave valuables such as heirlooms, paintings, antiques, silver, china, or items that you will be selling for profit. If you sell your engraved items, scratch one line through your Personal Code so that it is still readable, initial it and give the buyer a bill of sale describing the property.

The Personal Code should be engraved on an area that cannot be easily dismantled or seen with the public eye, and which is easily seen under proper conditions.

Personal Property marking or engraving is easy, free, and worth the time...!

MARKING / ENGRAVING PROGRAM WINDOW DECALS

By advertising your participation in the B.E.S.T. Personal Property Marking/Engraving Program you are announcing that your valuable property has been marked and will be difficult for a burglar to re-sell.

INVENTORY AND KEEP RECORDS OF YOUR PROPERTY

While marking your property, list the brand, model, serial number and the date purchased, along with the value. Store a duplicate copy of your inventory off-site; away from your home. The inventory will be of great help to police in their attempts to recover your stolen property and return it to its rightful owner if recovered. Also, should you suffer a major loss, this detailed listing will be vital because your insurance agent will require the best possible documentation to verify your claim.

PHOTOGRAPH / VIDEO YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY

It is recommended that you photograph and/or video tape valuable items that are inappropriate for marking, such as works of art, antiques, china, silver, furs, and similar items. Then photograph and/or videotape each room, cupboard, closet (do not forget the garage and vehicles!) in a way that will show all furnishings, details and accessories.

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