

## **SAFETY SUGGESTIONS**

**Make your home, vehicle, and community unattractive to criminals!! Three things criminals hate:**

### **LIGHT, TIME, & NOISE**

- **Leave porch lights on all night. Make sure the fixture has a bright bulb and that all trees and shrubs are cleared away. Consider installing a motion light on the side and rear of your home.**
- **When securing doors, especially sliding glass doors, always use a metal "Charlie" bar along with another bar (an old broom handle or dowel works well) in the tracks of the door. Burglars will slide a wire into the weather stripping and lift up the "Charlie" bar but usually will not be able to lift the second bar from the tracks.**
- **Criminals may break the glass to get into a home or vehicle. A loud alarm may not prevent the glass from being broken but may scare away the criminal and prevent theft. If you hear the sound of glass breaking, take a minute and look for anything unusual. Take note of anyone walking or driving away quickly. Try to observe what they are wearing, carrying, or any distinguishing features. You may just have witnessed a crime, and it could be days later until you hear of the incident and realize you saw the criminal.**

**AWARENESS OF YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR NEIGHBORS IS THE BEST CRIME DETERRENT!!!**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY TIPS  
WHO TO CALL AND WHEN**

**Q: When should I call 911?**

**A: Call 911 when you are involved or observe an incident and you think to yourself, I should call 911. If you think it, you should follow through and call. The police would rather respond to an incident before it becomes out of control.**

**Q: What number should I call when I need the police but it is not a 911 situation?**

**A: The Montgomery County Police have a non-emergency number for incidents that need to be reported but are not emergencies. (301)279-8000!**

**Q: When I observe an incident should I call the police or my property manager/security patrol?**

**A: Always contact the police first. The police department tracks all calls to 911 and the non-emergency number for statistical purposes. These numbers are used to determine crime trends and how many officers are assigned to an area, so please call the police first. Secondly, it is always a good idea to let the property manager/security know what is happening in your community.**