Be a "Tough Target"

A vacation, a weekend away from home, or a business trip should be a pleasant experience for you and your family. You can make each trip more enjoyable and enhance your security if you will take a few easy steps to reduce the possibility that your home will be burglarized or vandalized while you're away. You do not want to return to a trashed home and find your valuable property missing or destroyed. A vacant home, or one that appears vacant, is an appealing target to a burglar.

This brochure will provide you with information on how to make your home a "Tough Target." This information will not make your home "burglar proof," but, it can make it more "burglar resistant." Use it as a check list prior to your leaving on that well deserved trip or vacation.

Crime occurs where the opportunity exists. Remove the opportunity for the criminal to make YOU a victim.

Crime Prevention Tips from:

The National Crime Prevention Council and

ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Crime Prevention Unit
407-254-7106

Emergency
9-1-1

Non-Emergency
407-836-HELP (4357)

Visit us online at
www.ocso.com

ORANGE COUNTY
SHERIFF
Sheriff Jerry L. Demings

GOING AWAY?

Taking that well deserved vacation?

Don't leave your home an "easy target!"

10-1550 (10/12)

A Week Before You Leave...

- Ask a neighbor to watch your home and provide them with emergency contact information.
- Arrange to have your mail held at the post office or have a trusted neighbor pick it up daily.

- Arrange to have your newspaper stopped or picked up by a neighbor.
- Make arrangements to have the lawn mowed while you're away.

- Do not hide cash or jewelry in the home. Consider putting valuables in a safe deposit box.
- Make sure you have secured outside things such as bicycles and lawn items. Unsecured items are easy targets.

Just Before Leaving....

- Don't advertise your trip.
- Turn down the ringer volume of your phone so it cannot be heard from outside.
- Set your electric timer(s) to turn some of your lights on and off during the evening.
- Unplug all electrical appliances, such as the tv, stereos, computers, toasters, and microwave ovens to prevent damage during electrical storms.
- Have a friend park a vehicle in your driveway.

- Lock your garage door with a bar or padlock on the inside track to prevent anyone forcing open the overhead door.
- Close all windows and sliding doors. Make sure the locks are secure.

- Make sure the last person out of the house locks the door. Then make a check of the outside of your home to see that all is secure.

Vacations are for relaxation. You can relax even more knowing your home is a **"TOUGH TARGET"**

Call the Orange County Sheriff's Office today at (407) 254-7380 and ask for a free confidential Residential Security Survey.