

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE ADVISORY**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> District / Bethesda**

Officer Denise Gill

December 1, 2011

### **RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY** **SUSPICIOUS PERSONS & VEHICLES**

We are currently investigating a number of residential burglaries that are occurring in our District.

In concert with our efforts to identify and apprehend those individuals responsible for these crimes, we are seeking your help.

A burglary is an unlawful, usually forced entry into a residence where items of value are then stolen. This is one of the most difficult crimes to solve.

Three basic “leads” most frequently help to solve a burglary.

- Witnesses
- Physical evidence/stolen property
  - Follow up investigation

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

You are the “eyes and ears” of your neighborhood. You *know* what would be *normal* activity on your street. Most communities have many strangers in them every day. Some are doing lawn work, construction work, or domestic work. They usually are perfectly legitimate. *But when you see a stranger, take a moment to observe their behavior. If it appears suspicious, call us.*

**NON EMERGENCY NUMBER 301 279-8000**

This accomplishes several things. You get a marked police vehicle in your neighborhood and we have a chance to determine whether a stranger may be involved in criminal activity.

**Remember, theft is a crime of opportunity.**

What about unfamiliar vehicles?

How about jotting down that tag number and vehicle description? This kind of information is absolutely critical. Some burglars use a “lookout” and they may be waiting in a vehicle nearby.

Is your home secure? Is your personal property secure? Do you keep your valuables in your master bedroom? Might you considered storing your irreplaceable valuables in a safe deposit box? Have you recorded the serial numbers/model numbers for all of your electronic devices? If you have an alarm do you use it? Do you lock your doors and windows? Can your home be seen from the road? Can someone hide behind shrubbery to gain access to your doors or windows? Have you removed your garage door opener from your vehicle? Is your vehicle locked?

**Can we see your house numbers?**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP  
*2<sup>nd</sup> District Police / Bethesda*

**In Emergencies always dial 911**