

- Even if evidence results in an arrest, you may not get your lost items back. We sometimes do recover items, but not always. If evidence is recovered we do return it to the owner.
- Remember, all burglaries take time. If we have DNA evidence we send it to the State laboratory and it takes time to get the results back.
- We have several crime scene technicians that also aid in solving burglaries. However, the media and television portray crime solving to be a simple hour long process with all the technology in the world at their fingertips. In reality, we do implement technology to solve cases, but it does take much more than an hour.



Emergencies: If you are in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.

Non Emergencies: If you are not in immediate danger but still need help, there are numbers you can call that will still give you a police response.

CHAMPAIGN POLICE DEPARTMENT:
(217) 351-4545

METCAD: This is the dispatch center for Champaign County - (217) 333-8911

CRIME STOPPERS: This is a service that allows citizens to provide anonymous tips to the police in reference to criminal activity that may be occurring or to provide suspect information to aid in solving crimes that have already occurred. Information can be submitted anonymously by:

- (217) 373-TIPS or
- (217) 373-8477 or
- Web tip at: www.373tips.com or
- Text tip: Tip397 plus the information to 274637 (CRIMES).

Police Department

Burglary Prevention



Champaign Police Department
82 E. University Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820
Phone: (217) 351-4545
Email: police@ci.champaign.il.us



The Champaign Police Department welcomes you to your new residence. It is important to remember that your home may be a prime target for burglary. Included in this packet are some tips to help prevent you from becoming a victim.

BASIC PREVENTION TECHNIQUES

Simple tasks to help you keep your property

- Lock all doors and windows.
- Keep valuables out of public view.
- Do not allow unknown individuals into your apartment or apartment complex. No key, No entry! This also applies to hosting parties where several unknown individuals are wandering in and out. They may be casing your apartment.
- Keep a detailed list of valuable items in your house, including serial, make, and model numbers. Take photographs, if possible.
- Keep your apartment neat: It is much easier to distinguish what is out of place if everything is kept neat and orderly.
- Know who your neighbors are so you can distinguish them from suspicious characters.
- Report suspicious activity immediately and give good detailed descriptions.
- Make your apartment look like someone is always home.
- Renter's Insurance: If you don't have it, get it!

In addition to basic prevention techniques, there are ways to secure your doors and windows. Listed below are simple and economic ways to help make you and your belongings less attractive to criminals.

SECURING YOUR RESIDENCE

- Sliding glass door windows can easily be secured by inserting a piece of wood or a bar that prevents the door from being opened from the outside.
- Light timers can be a useful tool to make it appear that someone is home at all times, which makes it less enticing to burglars.
- Installing window vent locks will prevent someone from opening your window completely, therefore not allowing entry.
- Keeping your curtains or blinds closed can do wonders. If the burglar can not see your valuables, they will not know that there is anything to take.
- Make sure the locks on your doors secure properly; if not, contact your landlord to have them repaired.
- If you are leaving for a vacation, limit the number of people you inform. Also, it may be a good idea to have someone check on your residence periodically. You may tell a neighbor you are going to be out of town so they can keep an eye on your apartment.
- When going on any break from school, try to take your valuables with you. Do not leave electronics or anything else of value behind.

Sometimes, even when you have done everything possible to prevent a burglary, it happens anyway.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

- Do not move anything once you have found the burglary. Evidence is key in solving a crime, and if it is tampered with, it may be worthless.
- Report the burglary to the police immediately. The longer you wait the harder it is to solve the crime.
- Be sure to advise the officer of anything that is out of place or appears to be tampered with.
- When the police arrive, give detailed information on when it occurred and what is missing. This includes the make, model and serial numbers for your items.
- If you have suspect information, be clear and detailed. What was the suspect wearing? Which direction did they leave? What race/gender, height/weight were they? Was there anything specific that you recalled?
- If you enter upon a burglary or see one happening, call 9-1-1 immediately and again give clear, detailed and thorough information.
- If you have roommates, make sure to consult them to see if they are missing anything so that it can all be reported at the same time.
- If you have Renter's insurance, report the burglary to your insurance company so that you can be reimbursed for your losses.