



## BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Southwestern District



#### Burglary Prevention

There has been an increase in burglaries in your neighborhood. The following tips can help you avoid becoming the next burglary victim. Locking your windows and doors, installing high security locks, and establishing good security lighting, are the easiest and most cost-effective ways to prevent burglary. Here are some additional ways to deter burglaries:

- Ensure you are using solid exterior doors and that the doors are properly installed. Adequately anchor the strike plate to the framing of the house by using 3" long screws.
- Use solid wood or metal exterior doors. NEVER use an interior door to secure your home. They are flimsy and not as strong as exterior doors.
- Install weather stripping around your doors if the doors do not fit tightly.
- Every exterior door should be equipped with a deadbolt lock. Only using key-in-the-knob locks is insufficient.
- Make sure you use a deadbolt lock AND a knob lock every time you leave your home!
- Use a blocking device on all sliding or patio doors. A broomstick or dowel placed in the inside track can help prevent sliding door break-ins.
- Never hide a key outside of your home. Leave a spare key with a trusted neighbor.
- Lock all windows and secure them up with a blocking device (Dowels or broomsticks).
- Always leave a light on when you are not home, giving the appearance that someone is actually home.
- Increase your exterior lighting and use motion lights and/or timers.
- Pick up trash from your yard and alley ways.
- Make sure that you collect your trash and recycling bins from the road after pick up days. Leaving trash cans out for several days' signals to burglars that someone may be out of town.
- Trim trees and bushes to ensure that windows and doors are not blocked.
- Landscaping should be trimmed so criminals cannot use it for concealment.
- Use "Beware of Dog" or "Alarm" decals to deter suspects from entering your home.
- Consider purchasing an alarm system!
- Pick up newspapers from your yard every day and get your mail daily. If you go on vacation have a trusted neighbor or friend do this for you.
- Use safes to store valuables and ALWAYS keep a record of your serial numbers.
- Whenever you move into a new home or apartment, always change the locks!
- Call 911 for any suspicious activity!







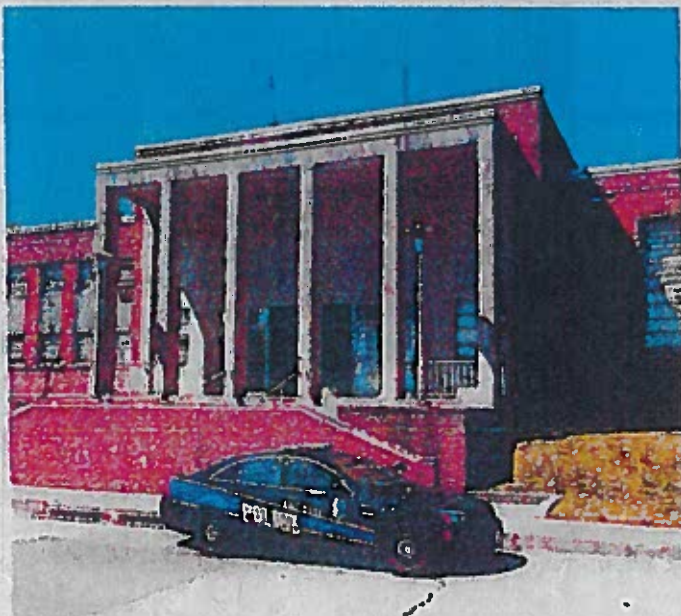
## BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT Southwestern District



### Get Involved:

No one individual or agency working alone can prevent crime. It takes police and citizens working in partnership. Community walks, community clean up days, and lighting are ways that we can work together to deter burglaries and other crimes in our neighborhoods. Be observant and help us help you keep your neighborhood safe. Together we can make Baltimore safer!

**Metro Crime Stoppers: 1-866-7LOCKUP**



### Contact Us

#### Mailing Address:

Baltimore Police Department  
242 W. 29<sup>th</sup> Street  
Baltimore, MD 21211

Southwestern District  
424 Font Hill Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21223

Phone: (410) 396-2488

### Mission Statement

The mission of the Baltimore Police Department, in partnership with the Baltimore community, is to protect and preserve life, protect property, understand and serve the needs of the city's neighborhoods, and to improve the quality of life of our community.

