Preparedness and prevention is our city's best defense against "crimes of opportunity."

The most effective way to reduce construction site burglaries and thefts is to encourage businesses to improve and practice loss prevention methods. This helps secure criminal prosecution.

Over 500 cases of construction site burglaries were reported in 2006, totaling more than $1 million in property loses. By protecting your business, property and employees, you can help prevent these crimes.

Sincerely,

John H. Rutherford
Sheriff

P- 1799
04/2007

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OFFICE OF SHERIFF
The Bold New City of the South
JACKSONVILLE POLICE

Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
Burglary and Theft Unit
Phone: 904-630-2175
Fax: 904-630-2895
JSOBurglary@jaxsheriff.org
www.coj.net/jso

A Guide to Preventing Construction Site Burglaries & Thefts

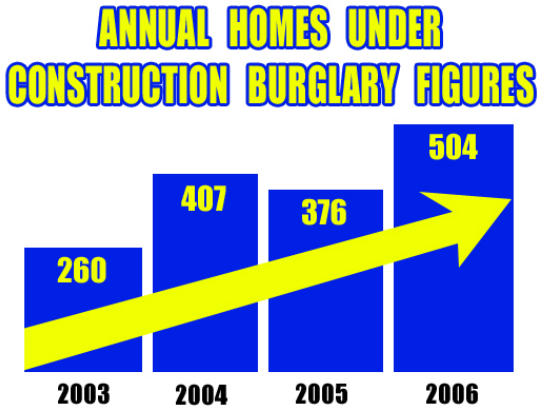
Loss Prevention is our best defense!

Presented by the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

Important information about Construction Site Burglaries and Thefts

According to Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Crime Analysis Unit, over 75% of those victims reporting appliance thefts are unable to tell officers the serial numbers. This results in guilty persons eluding apprehension and prosecution because proof of ownership can not be determined.

National and local research conclude that construction site burglaries and thefts are preventable. JSO is dedicated to educating our business owners and residents on prevention tactics providing the resources necessary to help stay safe while protecting your property.



The above graph demonstrates the upward trend of homes under construction burglarized during the last four years in Jacksonville.

Prevention Strategies

- *Inventory your tools, equipment and appliances.* ***Keep a current property inventory that includes serial numbers and model numbers. This will be necessary for making a police report.***
- *Minimize times between deliveries and installation. Cut down on "crime of opportunity" times.*
- *Post* ***No Trespassing, Construction Site*** *signs in a highly visible location, that state the following per Florida State Statute 810.09:* ***" This Area is a Designated Construction Site, and Anyone Who Trespasses On This Property Commits a Felony."*** *Include 24/7 company contact information and phone numbers.*
- *Always post a* ***Crime Stoppers*** *sign in a highly visible location. You can get them by requesting materials via e-mail at info@fccrimestoppers.com*
- *Minimize temporary and outsourced labor.*
- *Lower your supervision-to-site ratios as much as possible. Hold staff accountable for losses.*
- *Screen and run background checks on employees.*
- *Secure all equipment, materials and appliances when site is unsupervised or vacant.*
- *Consider adding portable (alarmed and bolt cutter resistant) storage units to job sites or developments.*
- *Develop a check out system for appropriate tools or equipment.*
- *Utilize surveillance on the job site at key access points (pole cameras, security guards, nearby residents businesses, and install motion or burglar alarms, etc.).*
- *Construct sturdy fencing around the job site.*
- *Ensure there is sufficient lighting to deter criminal activity. Where applicable, consider GPS and other tracking technology.*
- *Conduct random visits to the site and challenge strangers to show that you are aware of their activities.*
- *Follow-up after hours to see if your employees are leaving areas secured.*
- *Report suspicious activity to JSO* ***(911 for emergencies, non-emergencies (904) 630-0500).***
- *Invest in a Loss Prevention Coordinator.*
- *Consider an internal hotline to report suspicions about crime on the jobsite.*

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