

- Do not enter—the perpetrator may still be inside.
- Use a neighbor’s phone to call police.
- Do not touch anything or clean up until the police have inspected for evidence.
- Write down the license plate numbers of any suspicious vehicles.
- Note the descriptions of any suspicious persons.

**Other precautions you should take:**

- Never leave keys under doormats, flowerpots, mailboxes or other “secret” hiding places — burglars know where to look for hidden keys.
- Keep a detailed inventory of your valuable possessions, including a description of the items, date purchased and original value and serial numbers. Keep a copy in a safe place away from home. Take pictures or video
- Trim your shrubbery around your home to reduce cover for burglars.
- Be a good neighbor. If you notice anything suspicious in your neighborhood, call 911 immediately. Form a Neighborhood Watch Group. We can help you work with your neighbors to improve security and reduce risk of burglary.
- Mark your valuables with your driver’s license number. Marked items are harder for a burglar to dispose of and easier for police to recover.
- Consider installing a burglar alarm system.

**GENERAL PHONE NUMBERS**

Area Code (315)

Abused Persons Unit .....	435-3092
Accident Records .....	435-3029
Civil Department .....	435-3060
Community Relations .....	435-3006
Criminal Investigations .....	435-3081
Custody Department .....	435-1770
Fire Investigation Team .....	435-2525
Human Resources .....	435-1767
Justice Center .....	435-1770
Media Relations .....	435-3033
Neighborhood Watch of CNY .....	435-3201
Office of the Sheriff .....	435-3044
Police Administration .....	435-3036
Pistol License Unit .....	435-2037
Police Records .....	435-3010
Sex Offender Registry .....	435-3092
Sheriff's ID Cards .....	435-3009
Special Investigations Unit .....	435-5434
Warrants Investigation Unit .....	435-3032



**Sheriff  
Tobias Shelley**



**BURGLARY  
PREVENTION  
TIPS**



407 South State Street Syracuse, NY 13202

## What is a burglary?

A burglary occurs when a person enters or remains unlawfully in a dwelling with the intent to commit a crime therein.



**BURGLARY**

is a crime of

"**opportunity**"

and with a small

amount of preparation,

you can reduce that

**OPPORTUNITY**

## The Burglary Basics:

- Make your home look occupied and make it difficult to break in.
- Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time, lock your doors.
- Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day.
- Keep your garage door closed and locked.
- Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers to build up while you are away. Arrange with the Post Office to hold your mail or arrange for a friend or neighbor to get them regularly.
- Arrange for your lawn to be mowed if you are going away for an extended time.
- Check your locks on doors and windows and replace them with secure devices as necessary.
- Pushbutton locks on doorknobs are easy for burglars to open. Install deadbolt locks on all your outside doors.
- Sliding glass doors are vulnerable. Special locks are available for better security.
- Other windows may need better locks. Check with a locksmith or hardware store for alternatives.

## Don't tempt a thief:

- Lawn mowers, blowers, barbecues and bicycles are best stored out of sight
- Always lock your garden sheds and garages.
- Use curtains on garage and basement windows.
- Never leave notes on your door such as "Gone shopping".

## Locks.....get the best:

- No lock, regardless of its quality, can be truly effective. Key-in dead bolt locks provide minimum security. Ask a locksmith for advice on your situation.
- Change locks immediately if your keys are lost or stolen.
- When moving into a new home, have all locks changed.

## Targeting the Outside:

- Have adequate exterior lighting. A motion sensitive light is recommended for backyards.
- Trim trees and shrubs so that they cannot be used as hiding places for intruders.

## If Your Home Is Broken Into:

- If you come home to find an unexplained open/ broken window or door: