- Never leave your keys or valuables unattended in your room.
- Keep a daily check of your belongings.
- If you are going out in an unfamiliar area, ask the hotel clerk if there are areas you should avoid.
- Use all locking devices in or out of your room.
- Know who is knocking at your door before opening it.
- Report any suspicious activity to hotel or motel management.
- Do not carry your airplane tickets and or passport in open view.
- Carry as small amounts of cash as is reasonable. Use traveler's checks and credit cards as an alternative. Keep records of their numbers in a safe place, in case they are lost or stolen.



- Take a picture of your suitcases and keep the picture(s) with you. The picture(s) may be helpful in identifying your luggage if it is lost by an airline.
- While traveling, be sure your luggage is locked and secured.
- Males are advised to carry their wallets in an inside pocket or front trouser pocket.
- Females are advised to carry their purse under their arm.
- Label each piece of luggage with your name and business address.
- Be careful with bus, train or plane tickets. They are as good as cash.
- If you are a tourist, try not to advertise the fact. Don't look lost or vulnerable. Walk with a purpose and stay alert to what's happening around you.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH AWARENESS!

## **VACATION TIPS**



## Mike Gleason

WILLIAMSON COUNTY SHERIFF

WILLIAMSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE 508 ROCK ST. GEORGETOWN, TX. 78626

Main Phone: 512-943-1300 Website: <u>www.wilco.org/</u>

## SECURING YOUR RESIDENCE



- Have good locks on all exterior doors and windows and use them.
- Make sure your residence looks occupied and not empty.
- Leave shades and blinds in a normal position.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your residence while you're away. Leave your vacation address and telephone number with a neighbor so you can be reached in case of an emergency.
- Make sure your smoke and burglar alarms are functioning properly and armed.
- Stop all deliveries; arrange for a trusted neighbor to pick up your mail, newspaper and packages.

- Arrange for someone to mow your lawn, rake leaves and maintain the yard to give the home a lived-in look.
- Have a neighbor place garbage cans at the curb on your normal pickup day(s) and return them after the garbage pickup is made.
- Plug in timers to turn lights and a radio (talk show) or television on and off at appropriate times. Have several throughout the house.
- Turn the bell or ringer on your telephone down low. If a burglar is around, he/she won't be alerted to your absence by a ringing telephone.
- If you have call forwarding on your telephone, forward your calls to a trusted friend or relative.
- Don't announce your absence on answering machine messages; leave your normal messages on the machine.
- Close and lock garage doors and windows. Ask a neighbor to occasionally park in your driveway.

- If you leave your car at home, park it as you normally would. Vehicles parked outside should be moved occasionally to appear that they are being used.
- Consider taking valuables to a bank safety deposit box.
- Ask your local law enforcement agency to place your home on a close patrol (vacation checklist).

## WHILE TRAVELING



- If you are staying in a hotel or motel, take all of your luggage and valuables to your room.
- Keep extra cash and valuables locked in the hotel safe.