

## PROPERTY CRIME PREVENTION

One of the big mistakes that we as homeowners can make is assuming crime will not happen to us. There is not a city, community or neighborhood that is immune from crime. While the city of Beaumont ranks lower than many California cities in crime rates, recent changes in laws have made some crimes difficult to prosecute even if the criminals can be identified.

Living in Solera provides us with monitoring services that other communities may not enjoy, however, we are all still responsible for our own protection against crime. Our patrol service is an 'observe and report' service that observes our neighborhoods for visual signs of disturbances and suspicious activity. If an incident is observed, they are trained in correct notification processes and providing witness reports. Our gate attendants are responsible for properly identifying Resident's guests and providing vehicle parking passes before allowing entrance to our community. In addition, our resident only access gates are monitored by surveillance cameras. The Solera Board recently approved additional cameras at all gates so that both entrance and exiting vehicles can be observed.

The majority of home break-ins are the result of opportunity. Most burglars target easy points of entry, where they are most likely to go unnoticed. So, what are some things we can do to protect our property?

- **Securely lock your vehicle and be extra vigilant about removing personal items.** Something as simple as loose change in your center console, a pair of sunglasses, or even a gym bag can be enough motivation for someone to try to enter your vehicle. Remove any items that could tempt someone to break and enter.
- **Remove garage door openers from your vehicles.** Illegally entering homes by stealing garage door opener remotes is toward the top of the list of methods for thieves. Learn to deprogram your garage door in case your opener is stolen.
- **Lock all entry points to your home including gates, doors, and windows.** Install a dead bolt or locking pins on your doors and windows.
- **Install personal surveillance cameras and or home alarm systems.**
- **Keep shrubs and vegetation trimmed.** Remove cover for a would-be thief.
- **Do not allow your mail or newspapers to pile up if you are away from your house for several days.** Arrange to have a neighbor to pick up your newspapers and flyers while you are gone so your home does not appear dormant.
- **If you "See Something, Say Something.** If you witness a crime in process, call 911 immediately. If you are the unfortunate victim of a crime, file a police report by either calling Beaumont PD's non-emergency number 951.769.8500 or online <http://beaumontpd.org/online-reporting/>.

The fact that Solera has gated entries, a staffed main entry gate, periodic observation patrols and use of surveillance cameras, this does not provide a guarantee of protection against crime upon which Residents may rely. These monitoring benefits, combined with your personal prevention strategies, can help ensure that your property is well protected.