

# Neighborhood Safety Newsletter



PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY - PARTNERSHIPS - PROFESSIONALISM - PREVENTION & INTERVENTION  
OWNERSHIP

## Burglary and Firearm Thefts

A 2012 U.S. Bureau of Justice report revealed 1.4 million firearms were stolen nationally during burglaries between 2005 and 2010 - an average of 232,400 firearms stolen annually. While theft of any property of a homeowner is important, firearms theft is of particular concern. Residential burglaries often occur during the daytime. Criminals go to homes and neighborhoods while people are away and there are fewer witnesses. Watch this informative video and read below for some important firearm tips: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_r1YUWytU28&list=UUxm\\_XB7V2hgNjwVtu6ZShRg&feature=c4-overview](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_r1YUWytU28&list=UUxm_XB7V2hgNjwVtu6ZShRg&feature=c4-overview)

## Home Gun Safety & Prevention

- Homeowners should ensure their firearms have been purchased legally and registered according to state laws.
- Firearms are particularly targeted in residential burglaries. Criminals may break into a home specifically to steal one.
- Firearms easily accessible to a homeowner are also easily found by a burglar. Criminals know the common hiding spots for firearms and will ransack a home to find them.
- All firearms have serial numbers, however, not all serial numbers are documented in a database. Be sure you have documented the serial numbers on ALL your firearms.
- Unsecured firearms in the hands of a criminal pose a threat to the homeowner who interrupts a burglary.
- Stolen firearms end up on the street and in the hands of criminals who use them to commit a variety of crimes.

## Securing Techniques

- Firearms should ALWAYS be stored with safety and theft prevention in mind. Common places NOT recommended to store firearms include: master bedroom nightstands, dresser drawers, under mattresses, and inside closets.
- Other vulnerable storage places may be based on the homeowner's anticipation of needing to retrieve the firearm in a dangerous or threatening situation.
- Gun safes and cabinets are good options for storing firearms. Visit a gun store or a gun safe showroom to

learn your options including the different security and fire ratings for gun safes.

- At a minimum, use trigger locks on all firearms.

## Disposing of Unwanted Firearms

**Private Sale:** This requires seller and buyer to have a qualified third party facilitate the sale and transfer of the firearm Federal Firearms License (FFL) holder. For a fee, most local gun stores can facilitate completing the required Department of Justice (DOJ) Dealer Record of Sales (DROS) forms.

**Sale to Gun Store:** Many gunstores purchase firearms outright. Some will sell the firearm on consignment, and pay the owner when it is sold. In either case, the store will complete the necessary DOJ forms to reflect that the firearm was sold.

**Destruction:** The Sacramento Police Department will destroy unwanted firearms. Owners may bring unloaded firearms to:

- Police Department Headquarters: 5770 Freeport Blvd. (Mon. - Fri. / 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Police Department Property Facility: 555 Sequoia Pacific Blvd. (Mon. - Thurs. / 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

## Transport:

- It is a crime to transport a loaded firearm. Be sure it's unloaded.
- Ideally, the unloaded firearm should be transported with its action or cylinder open, and placed in the vehicle's trunk.
- When you arrive at the police facility, leave the firearm in the vehicle and advise an SPD employee of your intent to relinquish the firearm. The employee will go to your vehicle and take possession of it.
- If you cannot unload the weapon, call SPD Dispatch at (916) 264-5471. An officer will be sent to take the firearm and book it for destruction.
- Note: Whichever process you use to relinquish your firearm, you will receive a case number stating you are no longer in possession of it.

