

Burglary Prevention Guidelines for all Estate Management Companies in Macao

- ◆ There has been a spate of burglaries in Macao recently. Houses, shops and commercial buildings have become the targets for burglars. Properties worth tens to hundreds of thousands dollars (such as computers and electronic devices) were stolen.
- ◆ As Chinese New Year is round the corner, culprits may break into houses, shops or commercial properties while families, or staffs are away for holiday.
- ◆ We would like to remind all residents and shop owners, via their estate management companies, to exercise vigilance at all times, and properly safeguard their properties against theft, especially during the holiday seasons.

House-breaking precautions for all residents:

- ◆ Fit sturdy deadlocks on doors and grilles on windows.
- ◆ Attach an anti-burglary lock on the bolt before going to bed.
- ◆ Have your burglar alarm sensors or surveillance cameras checked on a regular basis.
- ◆ Make sure all windows (including fanlights) are properly locked before you leave.
- ◆ Do not keep large amounts of cash or valuables in the house.
- ◆ Ask your relatives or neighbours to empty your letterbox while you are away, and lower the ring volume of your landline to avoid signs of absence.
- ◆ Should you encounter sudden blackout or suspension of water supply, do not go out of the apartment alone. Instead, contact the security guards or your neighbours immediately.
- ◆ Be cautious when a stranger complains at your door about water leak, smoke or noise from your house. Never let strangers into your home. Call the police if you have suspicion.
- ◆ Residents should inform their caretaker's office before and after deliveries, and vice versa, to deter opportunist burglars from attempting entry.
- ◆ When carrying out ancestor worships in the corridor, ensure you are accompanied or your door is closed. This could prevent burglars from sneaking into your house.
- ◆ Should you have to dispose of large furniture or household waste, inform your estate management company and the caretaker's office in advance so as to prevent opportunist thieves from entering the building.

Shop burglary precautions:

- ◆ Shop assistants should avoid leaving their personal belongings unattended.
- ◆ Install anti-theft devices, such as CCTV and burglar alarm sensors.
- ◆ Install a recording system for your existing CCTV. Ensure the lenses are correctly adjusted and the devices are working properly.
- ◆ To avoid burglars making advantage of any blind spots in the store, install a double or multi-camera system for better protection against theft.
- ◆ Fix strong and good quality deadlocks. Make sure you have locked up when you leave.
- ◆ Should you have a roller shutter installed in your store, ensure the switch box is secure and its lock is sturdy.
- ◆ Keep cash on the premises to a minimum. When necessary, deposit the money in the bank before closing up.
- ◆ Exercise utmost care when handling money transactions. Be vigilant against “Money Changing” fraud.
- ◆ Get yourself a counterfeit notes detection device and keep yourself well informed of the latest features of genuine banknote.

Theft precautions for shopkeepers:

- ◆ Install burglar alarm systems, such as CCTV and anti-theft sensors.
- ◆ Install a recording system for your existing CCTV. Ensure the lenses are correctly adjusted and the devices are working properly.
- ◆ To avoid burglars making advantage of any blind spots in the store, install a double or multi-camera system for better protection against theft.
- ◆ Have all visitors’ identification checked at the entrance. Ensure they sign in and out of the building.
- ◆ Have a routine check on all fire exits and drains mounted outside the façade of the building, as they could be havens for burglars.
- ◆ Install joint security systems for adjoining podiums of buildings, if possible.
- ◆ Residents should inform their caretaker’s office before and after deliveries or vice versa to deter opportunist burglars from attempting entry.
- ◆ Should you have large furniture or household waste to dispose of, inform your estate management company and the caretaker’s office in advance as to prevent opportunist thieves from entering the building.

Police-Community and Public Relations Division

Judiciary Police

8 January 2009