

INFORMATION ON CRIMES

Here are some crimes that have occurred in the neighborhood and some suggestions:

1. There have been a number of home break-ins, mostly on Camino Elevado and Calle Mesita. Some have occurred during the day and even when occupants were at home. **We suggest** keeping doors locked at all times and have an alarm system. Set the alarm--some have the "Stay" feature--when you are in the shower and at night. Keep drapes and blinds closed at night.
2. There have been young people coming around claiming to be neighbors or related to neighbors and they try to sell magazine subscriptions or ask for donations for charity or for some cause like college tuition or a trip to Europe. These are scams that have been going on for decades. **We suggest** that you don't open the door to strangers and talk through the closed door or install an intercom system. If you think that the person may be a real neighbor, ask for their address and tell them you will stop by later and leave off a donation. (They will likely give you a false address). Be polite but clearly state you are not interested. They can sometimes become aggressive.
3. Vehicles have been stolen or broken into. Most were parked in the street or in the driveway. **We suggest** keeping cars in the garage or as far onto the property as possible. If you need to keep your car outside, be sure to keep it locked and take the garage door opener out of the car. A thief can easily get into your home by first breaking into the vehicle and then using the garage door opener.
4. Mail has been stolen from mailboxes. **We suggest** getting a locked mailbox and never leave outgoing mail on the box with the flag up. Give the mail directly to the letter carrier or mail it at a post office. Thieves like to steal incoming and outgoing mail for checks, bank account numbers, or other sensitive information.
5. There have been some break-ins when residents are on vacation. **We suggest** having your newspapers and mail held from delivery or have a friend or relative pick them up. Be sure to set the home alarm and lock all doors and windows. Have some lights on timers. Let neighbors know of anyone who may be on your property, such as a gardener or pool maintenance people. Neighbors should call police if they see anyone else on the property. Finally, call the Chula Vista Senior Patrol at 619 476-2415. They will come by your home several times to do a check.
6. Although not a crime, there have been problems with noise, particularly loud and long parties. The police normally recommend you talk to neighbors. Most people want to be good neighbors. However, it could be intimidating or even dangerous to approach an ongoing party at night. You would want to talk to the neighbor during the day when a party is not going on. Call the police if the problem is at night-- you can ask to be anonymous.
 - The City has very strict noise laws. Noise cannot be heard beyond 50 feet from a property from 11pm to 8am. Any noise, anytime, that disturbs others with reasonable hearing is against the law—there are some exceptions for industrial areas and construction sites. Penalties can be as high as \$1000.