



Laguna Niguel Police Services

SPECIAL CRIME ALERT

27831 La Paz Road
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
(949) 362-4365

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Residential and Vehicle Burglaries

During the past several months, the number of residential and vehicle burglary reports has increased throughout South Orange County, including Laguna Niguel. Burglaries have taken place in a variety of neighborhoods including gated and access-controlled areas.

Burglarized residences were accessed repeatedly through unlocked doors, patio sliders and open windows. The suspect(s) is taking what is visible and readily available. The most commonly stolen items are watches, jewelry, small electronics, cash, wallets, and computers. In the majority of vehicle burglaries, the suspect(s) entered the through an unlocked car door or simply broke a side window to gain access to valuables that were left in plain sight. Some of the items being taken out of vehicles are cell phones, iPods, wallets, purses, brief cases, mobile GPS, and laptop computers.

Burglary is a crime of opportunity. Although they may seem random in occurrence, they actually involve a selection process. Suspects will select a home or vehicle to burglarize because it offers the best opportunity to carry out the crime quickly, undetected, and with the fewest number of prevention obstacles. ***If you remove the opportunity you will likely prevent the burglary.*** Laguna Niguel Police Services offers the following crime prevention suggestions:

- **Remove all valuables from your vehicle and lock your doors before going into your home; this also pertains to vehicles parked in the garage.**
- **Always lock access points, on all levels, into your home. This includes the front door, garage doors, interior utility doors, patio sliders, veranda doors, and windows.**
- **Use timers for house and porch lights to give the appearance that you are home.**
- **Evaluate your current security measures and identify vulnerable areas, including the back/greenbelt slope, accessible yards, concealed entries, and areas with poor visibility.**
- **Utilize alarms and security/motion lighting if you have them installed.**
- **Immediately report all suspicious people and vehicles to OCSD (949) 770-6011.**
- **Good neighbors and an active Neighborhood Watch are two of the best prevention measures against most crimes. Neighbors working in cooperation with law enforcement make the best crime fighting teams around!**

This crime alert is intended to advise you of criminal activity that may affect you or your community. If you have questions or suspect information, please send an email to jdavidson@ci.laguna-niguel.ca.us or call (949) 362-4365.