



## Prince George's County Police Department University of Maryland Police Department



As the fall semester comes to an end, the Prince George's County Police Department (PGPD) and the University of Maryland Police Department (UMPD) are reminding residents of ways to safeguard their home during the winter break. We hope this information serves as a reminder of what you can do to reduce your chance of becoming a victim of a crime and remind you to be smart, be safe!

### **Protecting your residence while you are home or away:**

- Keep windows locked, regardless if they are upper or lower level windows.
- Remember to lock your doors, even when you are home.
- If you have a home security system, engage your alarm when you are away and when you are in for the night.
- Use blinds and drapes for privacy.
- Place lights on a timer to give the appearance of someone being home.
- Ensure bushes are trimmed back to remove hiding places for potential criminals.
- Store away and secure any loose items that might be in the yard, for example, a ladder, tools, etc.
- Ensure your home has good interior & exterior lighting for safety & protection.
- Never place a key over your doorway or outside the house. Consider leaving a key with a trusted friend or neighbor.
- Ask a friend or a trusted neighbor to keep an eye on your residence while you are away.
- Take valuable items such as jewelry, money, portable electronic devices, etc., with you to avoid potential theft.
- If you are leaving your vehicle for a long period of time, remove items of value, secure windows and doors, and if you have a security feature, engage it.
- Never enter your home if you see that a door or window has been forced. Go to the nearest safe place and contact police immediately.

### **Report any off-campus unusual or suspicious activity immediately to PGPD:**

Prince George's County Police Department – Emergency Line: 911;

Non-Emergency Line: (301) 352-1200

University of Maryland Police Department – Emergency Line: (301) 405-3333 or #3333 from a cell phone; Non-Emergency Line: (301) 405-3555