

## Resources

The Fairfax County Police Department has Crime Prevention Officers assigned to each district station. These officers may assist you in your recovery process.

**Home Security Survey** - At your request, a crime prevention officer will come to your home and make recommendations you can incorporate in your home that may deter a burglar. This is a free service to the community.

**Neighborhood Watch** - If your neighborhood is not currently involved in Neighborhood Watch, an officer can assist in starting the program in your community.

### Fair Oaks District Station

703-591-0966

### Franconia District Station

703-922-0889

### Mason District Station

703-256-8035

### McLean District Station

703-556-7750

### Mount Vernon Station

703-360-8400

### Reston District Station

703-478-0904

### Sully District Station

703-814-7000

### West Springfield Station

703-644-7377



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## Fairfax County Police

Fairfax County Police Department  
4100 Chain Bridge Road  
Fairfax Virginia 22030

Phone: 703-691-2131  
[www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/police/)

This document is available in an alternative format upon request. Please call the Fairfax County Police Department at 703-246-7562 or TTY 703-204-2264.

Fairfax County Police Department

# RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

*A Personal Crime*



May 2007

## Not Just a Property Crime

The impact that a burglary can have on you and your family can be traumatic. Apprehending the criminal and trying to recover your property is the responsibility of the police.

When the unfortunate event of a residential burglary occurs, a uniformed officer will take a preliminary report of the incident. The officer will attempt to recover evidence such as latent fingerprints and talk to neighbors who may have information important to the investigation.



A case number will be assigned to the incident. A detective with the Criminal Investigation Section (CIS) will be assigned your case. The detective will contact you regarding the incident and discuss the events with you again. The detective will follow any leads available through the evidence that is collected. If you become aware of any additional information regarding the burglary, you should notify the detective.

## The Emotional Impact

You can expect to have a wide range of emotional reactions as a result of this experience:

- **Shock and Disbelief** - It will be difficult to comprehend that an intruder was able to get into your home.
- **Disorientation** - It may take some time for you to get back into your normal routine.
- **Lack of Control** - Listing stolen property, filling out insurance forms, and the realization your property may not be recovered, will contribute to a feeling of helplessness.
- **Fear** - You will lose the sense of security you once had in your home, and it will take time for you to re-establish that sense of security. This is particularly true for children.
- **Anger** - This is often the strongest and most long-term emotion felt by burglary victims.

## Recovery

Reporting the crime to the police is your first step in the recovery process. You can also:

- Initiate a “cleansing process” in your home. Redecorate, paint, shampoo the carpets, etc.
- Talk to family and friends about your feelings.
- Mark and take inventory of your valuable items.
- Take reasonable security measures to make your home less attractive to a burglar.
- Contact **Victim Services**, a special division of the Fairfax County Police Department at 703-246-2141 for additional services .

