All citizens have a right to be secure in their home. Home invasion is a serious crime that violates that right.

**NEVER OPEN YOUR DOOR TO STRANGERS**

Once you open your door, your security can be compromised. Talk to strangers through the door, a side panel or window. Install and use a door “peep” hole to observe the person before opening the door. Use a bolt and/or chain on your front door.

When reasonably possible, keep your doors, windows and garage locked even when you are home or working in the yard.

**ALWAYS ASK FOR I.D.**

If utility companies or delivery services are in your area, their employees should have proper I.D. and properly marked vehicles. If you have any concern or feel uneasy, call the police.

**KEEP A PEN AND PAPER NEAR YOUR FRONT DOOR**

- If you observe a person acting suspiciously or vehicle that seems unusual or out of the ordinary, write down a description and call the police immediately.

- When describing a person, look them over from head to toe – in that order.

- Look at them in relation to your door, light pole, etc., to help determine height.

- Note eye color, facial hair, hair color – these cannot be changed as easily as clothing. Look at how they are dressed.

- If a suspicious person is in a vehicle, try to get the license number. Then, concentrate on the make, model, color and any identifying marks on the vehicle.

If you see suspicious activity or you become a victim of a crime, contact the police immediately. The information you provide may prevent others from being victimized and help police apprehend the criminal.

Remember, it’s YOUR neighborhood. It’s YOUR home. Following these tips can help keep you SAFE.

These safety tips are brought to you by:

The Allegheny County District Attorney, The Allegheny County Chiefs of Police Association
The Allegheny County Sheriff and The Allegheny County Police Department