

**VIRTUAL
BUILDING
SITE**

Building Site Theft Prevention Initiative

An open letter to residents of

Dear Resident,

Thefts from building sites affect the whole community. The costs are hidden but they are enormous and are passed on to consumers. The Housing Industry Association Insurance Service has paid out around \$3 million in site theft claims in the past 18 months, with 85% of claims relating to site theft.

Victoria Police and Crime Prevention Victoria are working together with a wide range of key stakeholders, including building industry groups and local community groups to prevent building site crime and vandalism.

I am pleased to inform you that we support this initiative and are implementing a range of strategies aimed at preventing and reducing the number of building site related crimes, including theft and vandalism. Introducing these security measures does not imply that this area has a higher than usual incidence of crime but, rather, ensures that preventative strategies are implemented.

These new security measures, including raising neighbourhood awareness and the use of signage, are being implemented on all our developments to reduce opportunities for crime. Other builders and developers are adopting similar measures.

One of these measures focuses on reporting 'suspicious activities' and it is here that we ask for your support. Whilst many people regard building site crime as something that happens outside normal building hours, a substantial amount of crime is committed during working hours. There is also a strong case for suspecting that some of this crime is committed by persons either within the industry or by bogus builders.

I encourage you to support this initiative by reporting incidents of suspicious activity. In circumstances where there are suspect/s on the site, and there are indications of criminal activity, police ask that you report this immediately by ringing **000**. You will find overleaf some guidelines for recognising suspicious activities and a Suspicious Incident Report form to assist you with recording details of suspicious behaviour.

For situations where you discover theft or vandalism on building sites and there are no suspects present, we ask you to contact us on the number displayed on site. For more information on this initiative visit the Virtual Building Site at www.neighbourhoodwatch.com.au

Yours faithfully

Name: _____

Position: _____

Company: _____

Contact Details: Ph. _____ Mob. _____

Suspicious Activity Guidelines

Residents are encouraged to be proactive in helping to prevent crime in the local community. The Building Site Crime Prevention Initiative needs your support in observing and reporting suspicious activities. The following guidelines may assist you in identifying suspicious activities.

- People on site:
 - in the dark
 - outside normal building hours
- People:
 - loitering in the area and later seen on the site
 - removing materials from the rear or side doors
 - damaging property
 - removing doors, windows, spas and hot water and air conditioning units
 - removing materials that have recently been delivered or installed
 - loading materials into private vehicles
 - in vehicles that have their registration numbers obscured or missing
- People making repeat visits to the site and removing materials each time.
- People removing property when there is no one else on site.
- People seen removing property in the daytime in unusual circumstances for example:
 - removal of full pallets of tiles or of bricks, or large quantities of materials; or
 - anything that appears out of the ordinary like the hot water unit taken off site and loaded onto the carpenter's vehicle. (Why is the carpenter moving plumbing equipment?)

As a general guide, ask yourself, does the description of the goods removed match the person seen removing them? If at night, why would a person be removing materials when the site is in darkness?

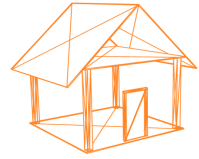
Reporting Suspicious Activity

If you see people on site, and believe that they are stealing or vandalising property, please record their details on the Suspicious Incident Report form. Description of suspects and vehicle registration numbers should be recorded on this form and reported immediately to Police on 000.

Please Remember

Do not put yourself at personal risk by confronting people acting suspiciously.

SUSPICIOUS INCIDENT REPORT



VIRTUAL BUILDING SITE

Time: _____ Date: _____

Location of Incident: _____ *This information could help solve a crime.*

Nature of Incident: _____ *help solve a crime.*

SUSPECT PERSON			SUSPECT VEHICLE		
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F (circle)		Height: _____ cm short med. tall	Vehicle Make		
Build		Hair Colour		Notes	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fat	<input type="checkbox"/> Obese (very fat) <input type="checkbox"/> Thin (slender) <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Muscular <input type="checkbox"/> Solid	<input type="checkbox"/> Red/Ginger/Sandy	<input type="checkbox"/> Mazda		
<input type="checkbox"/> Obese (very fat)		<input type="checkbox"/> Fair/Blonde	<input type="checkbox"/> Toyota		
<input type="checkbox"/> Thin (slender)		<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> 4WD		
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium		<input type="checkbox"/> Grey	<input type="checkbox"/> Holden		
<input type="checkbox"/> Muscular		<input type="checkbox"/> Dark Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Nissan		
<input type="checkbox"/> Solid		<input type="checkbox"/> Light Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Ford		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Hair Style		Eye Colour		Type of Vehicle	
<input type="checkbox"/> Straight	<input type="checkbox"/> Bald <input type="checkbox"/> Balding <input type="checkbox"/> Short <input type="checkbox"/> Long <input type="checkbox"/> Curly <input type="checkbox"/> Dreadlocks <input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Grey	<input type="checkbox"/> Sedan		
<input type="checkbox"/> Bald		<input type="checkbox"/> Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Station Wagon		
<input type="checkbox"/> Balding		<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Panel Van		
<input type="checkbox"/> Short		<input type="checkbox"/> Green	<input type="checkbox"/> Hatchback		
<input type="checkbox"/> Long		<input type="checkbox"/> Hazel	<input type="checkbox"/> Utility		
<input type="checkbox"/> Curly		<input type="checkbox"/> Blue	<input type="checkbox"/> Van		
<input type="checkbox"/> Dreadlocks		<input type="checkbox"/> Spectacles	<input type="checkbox"/> Truck		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other		<input type="checkbox"/> Dark Glasses	<input type="checkbox"/> Convertible		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
Complexion/Race		Facial Hair			
<input type="checkbox"/> Caucasian	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean-shaven <input type="checkbox"/> Moustache <input type="checkbox"/> Full Beard <input type="checkbox"/> Goatee Beard <input type="checkbox"/> Chin Tuft <input type="checkbox"/> Sideburns <input type="checkbox"/> Other Type <input type="checkbox"/> Explain: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Brown		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian		<input type="checkbox"/> Blue	<input type="checkbox"/> Silver		
<input type="checkbox"/> Black		<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Green		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sallow		<input type="checkbox"/> Cream	<input type="checkbox"/> Metallic		
<input type="checkbox"/> Pale		<input type="checkbox"/> Grey	<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium		<input type="checkbox"/> Red			
<input type="checkbox"/> Olive		<input type="checkbox"/> Gold			
<input type="checkbox"/> Dark		<input type="checkbox"/> Fawn			
<input type="checkbox"/> Acne					
Tattoos/Scars		Car Registration:			
Location:		Car Accessories			
Description:		e.g.- roof rack, spoiler, rear louvre ...			
Clothing		Other			
Upper Body:		e.g. - damage, sign-writing ...			
Lower Body:					
Shoes:					
Previously Observed? Yes / No					
Where / When:					