

HARLINGEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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HONOR



COURAGE



INTEGRITY

HOLIDAY CRIME PREVENTION TIPS "Protecting Your Home"

The holiday season is always a special time of year, but it is also the season to be wary of burglars, thieves, and other holiday criminals. Nothing can ruin the Holiday spirit faster than becoming the victim of a crime. We can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware. The Harlingen Police Department offers the following tips to help keep your home and family safe this Holiday season.

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- When setting up a Christmas tree or other holiday display, make sure doors and passageways are clear inside your home.
- Be sure your Christmas tree is mounted on a sturdy base so children, elderly persons or family pets cannot pull it over on themselves.
- If you use lights on your Christmas tree ensure the wiring is not damaged or frayed. Frayed or damaged wiring can cause a fire.
- Place your Christmas tree in water or wet sand to keep it green.

Report any suspicious activity to the Harlingen Police Department at (956)216-5490 / (956)216-5401 or call the Harlingen Area Crime Stoppers at (956)425-TIPS (8477).



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