



## Home Inspections:

Is your home really safe once you leave for work or school? Your home is considered a sanctuary where you should feel safe. Your home is the only environment where you have control over who can get close to you or your family. Protecting your home and family from criminal intrusion should be high on your list of priorities.

The majority of home burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are away at work or school. Statistics tell us that 70% of the burglars use some amount of force to enter a dwelling, but their preference is to gain easy access through an open door or window.

Although home burglaries may seem random in occurrence, they actually involve a selection process. The burglar's selection process is simple. Choose an unoccupied home with the easiest access, the greatest amount of cover, and with the best escape routes.

Becoming a burglary victim can leave a family feeling vulnerable and violated. If you have been a victim or want to reduce your chance of being a victim of a home burglary, a home inspection can be performed by a police officer certified by TCLEOSE and the Texas Dept of Insurance.

The officer inspects all the exterior windows and doors (garage doors) of the residence. A check is done to see if they are secured properly with locks and auxiliary locks, as defined in the requirements. Being that an Alarm Ordinance is in effect, we also check for permits and give home owner information on where to get a permit. At the end of the inspection, the officer may give the homeowner additional tips on better securing their home (landscaping tips, lighting tips, etc.) that do not affect their inspection.

If you would like to schedule a home inspection, please contact your Mission Valley Regional Command Center's Crime Prevention Officer, Pat Perez, at 872-3848 to set an appointment.

**(An advantage to getting an inspection is the discount you receive for the homeowners insurance. A resident can get up to a 20% discount and the inspection discount is good for up to three years.)**