



**SEMINOLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**  
**DONALD F ESLINGER, SHERIFF**

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## **HOW SECURE IS YOUR HOME?**

### **RESIDENTIAL SECURITY ASSESSMENTS**

A Security Assessment is an evaluation of your residence which identifies vulnerabilities that may make your home an easy target for the criminal. This evaluation will take about forty-five minutes to complete, depending upon the size of your home. When the assessment is completed, the resident is given a written checklist of items that need to be addressed along with recommendations.

A Crime Prevention Practitioner from the Sheriff's Office will conduct the assessment. The practitioners are also Community Service Officers who are trained as professionals in all areas of residential and commercial security.

The purpose of the assessment is not to make your home "*Burglar Proof*", but more "*Burglar Resistant*". Remember security measures are never convenient. However, it's your decision regarding how many measures you wish to employ. There are numerous layers of security available. Obviously, the more layers of protection implement, the more secure your property will be. In the end, you will have to decide what measures will be most appropriate for your situation and lifestyle. The Crime Prevention Practitioner will provide you with a list of items that make your home most vulnerable. Sometimes, there is an inexpensive way to remove vulnerability. However, keep in mind that this is not always the case.

Taking a walk around the perimeter and interior of your home, during both daytime and evening hours, is one of the best ways to prepare for a home security assessment. Try to view your home through the eyes of a burglar and ask yourself the following questions;

*Can you identify areas around your home that the burglar may choose as an entry point?*

*Are there broken locks on your doors or windows?*

*Can a passerby view the activity occurring inside my home at night?*

*Are there places around the perimeter of my home that may be an ambush point or hiding place for an intruder?*

*Is there anything that may attract the attention of a criminal?*

Home Security Assessment appointments may be scheduled between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please allow a 24 hour response to your voice message. Thank you.

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**CRIME PREVENTION UNIT**

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