

Mission of Your Sheriff's Office

Your Sheriff's Office recognizes that across the nation agents are vulnerable to crime. Every year the statistics speak for themselves. The goal of your Sheriff's Office is to safeguard the lives, property, and rights of the people they serve; reduce the incidence and fear of crime; and to enhance public safety while working with our community to improve your quality of life.

Summary of Safety Tips:

- 1 Develop an Office Security Plan
- 2 Identify potential predators
- 3 Pre-screen prospective buyers
- 4 The 3 W's: Where, When, With Whom
- 5 Trust your intuition
- 6 Have a distress code
- 7 Implement the buddy system
- 8 Conservative personal marketing
- 9 Professional and functional dress code
- 10 Protect yourself with self-defense



Walla Walla County Sheriff

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SAFETY TIPS FOR REALTORS



Walla Walla County Sheriff's Office

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10 Second Safety Steps

Crime Prevention Recommendations

Be aware of your surroundings. These simple observations should be used everywhere you go.

Take 2 seconds when you arrive at your destination

- What is going on in the area?
- Are you parked in a well-lit, visible location?
- Do you have an exit plan?

Take 2 seconds after you step from your car

- Who is around and what are they doing?
- Do you know where you are going and how to get there?

Take 2 seconds as you walk to your destination

- Do you observe any obstacles or hiding places in the parking lot or the street? What is your plan to alleviate them?
- Is anyone loitering in the area?

Take 2 seconds at the door

- Do you have an uneasy feeling as you walk in/out?
- Is someone following you in/out?

Take 2 seconds when you enter your destination

- Does anything seem out of place?
- Is anyone present who should not be there or who is not expected?
- What is your gut telling you?
- Remember, you always have options...Just look for them!

Be Aware and Have a Plan!!

Dress for safety and success. Expensive jewelry and clothing can possibly attract unwanted attention.

Protect the home and belongings. Watch what the buyers are doing. Don't get caught up in the sale and showing of the house. Direct from behind; Don't lead from the front.

Conduct safe personal marketing. Carefully consider what information to share publicly.

Implement a buddy system. Consider bringing along a co-worker and not meeting the buyer alone.

Consider who to give a ride. After meeting the prospective client at your office, consider asking them to follow you to the property.

Pay attention to your intuition. If something makes you nervous, you are probably right. Having a sale is not worth being a victim.



Know how to defend yourself. Consider enrolling in self-defense classes.

Be extra cautious when showing property alone. Take a colleague or even a family member along. A criminal might not move into action until the second or third meeting.

Identification and pre-qualify at your first meeting. Meet prospective buyers at the office, photocopy their driver's license. Prepare your client's file and leave it with a co-worker.

Stay in communication with the office. Someone should know where you are at all times, either your office or at home. Let the client observe you "checking in" occasionally.

Use predetermined code words to alert your office of distress. Utilize green, yellow, and red, a traffic light, for levels of distress. For example, "Send me the red file" could be a code for help.

Have a plan for safe open houses. Take a friend, and bring a cell phone. Think about your options in various scenarios...ask yourself the question: When to fight? When to run?