

## Avoid Becoming a Victim of a Distraction Burglary

Criminals are always finding new tricks and methods when it comes to burglarizing a home. One type is the "distraction" burglary. In this type of con, the "visitor" comes to your home and tells you a lie to gain access to your home or to create a ruse to distract you so an accomplice can slip in, which is the most common method.

The criminals may state that they work for the electric or telephone company or need to enter your yard because they are doing work at your neighbor's house. While you are speaking with the "worker," the second criminal enters your bedroom to steal jewelry and cash. They leave before you realize your property has been stolen. The most frequent target for these distraction burglaries are the elderly and vulnerable.

### Fire Boat Stationed at 79th St. Causeway

Beginning in October 2014, the Miami-Dade Fire Department will be stationing a fire boat into service from the Pelican Harbor Marina (along the 79th Street Causeway). This boat will cover the north section of the county (including the Surfside bayfront) from the Julia Tuttle Causeway to the Miami-Dade/ Broward County Line.

## Dogs on the Beach Regulations

The Town of Surfside and Miami-Dade County have strict laws concerning dogs on the beach. Please note the rules below and be aware that warnings and fines will be issued if they are not followed.

- All dogs (leashed or unleashed) are prohibited on the beach area east of the dunes to the ocean per Miami-Dade County Code Section 5-20 and Town of Surfside Code Section 10-33 (\$100 fine).
- Leashed dogs are allowed on the hard pack area west of the dunes and the walking path. Unleashed dogs are not allowed (\$50 fine).
- We ask for your cooperation to restrict your dogs (leashed or unleashed) from the walking path on the dunes because it is narrow and a safety concern to others.
- Leashed certified service dogs are permitted on the beach, hard pack and walking path.
- Pet feces must be picked up and disposed of in proper waste receptacles (\$100 fine).

Please call the Police Department at (305) 861-4862 to report non-compliance.

Follow these tips to help prevent you from becoming a victim of a distraction burglary:

- If you're not sure who the person is behind the door, don't open it!
- If you're unsure about the nature of one's visit, again, don't open the door.
- If you are successfully lured outside of your home, make sure to lock the door behind you. Also, make sure all entryways leading into your home are locked as well. This includes doors, windows, and the garage.

If something just does not sound right or makes you feel uneasy, it usually isn't. Do not open the door. Call 911 or the Surfside Police immediately at 305-861-4862. We will be there in a few minutes to stop and verify who your visitors are. Remember to be safe, keep an Eye on Surfside and watch out for your neighbors.

### It's the Law: Clean Up After Pooch

Taking your dog out for a walk? Please be kind to your neighbors and Town property by collecting and properly disposing of any waste your pet leaves behind. Pet waste can transmit disease.

### Retiring Reserve Officer Honored



A special ceremony was held at the Oct. 14 Commission meeting saluting a long-time Surfside reserve officer Rolando Baldomero. (L-R) Town Manager Michael Crotty, Police Chief David Allen, Rolando Baldomero and his wife and Vice Mayor Eli Tourgeman.

### Mobile Phone App Can Improve Surfside

**SeeClickFix** is a mobile phone app for reporting conditions that may need to be addressed by the Town. Download this free app from our website [www.townofsurfsidefl.gov](http://www.townofsurfsidefl.gov) or through your mobile phone. It will allow you to use descriptions, photos and videos to instantly report situations that require attention and follow-up. You can communicate, comment and get updates via your phone.