

# Resources

The Walla Walla Police Department offers many services that may assist you in your recovery process. These free services include:

## Home Security Survey

At your request, law enforcement personnel will come to your home and offer a **FREE** Home Safety and Security Inspection.

## Crime Prevention Program

The Crime Prevention Program offers community presentations that include recent crime trends and crime prevention measures.

## Block Watch

If you do not live in a Block Watch neighborhood, you may want to consider starting a program that is proven to combat crime.

Contact the Crime Prevention Coordinator for additional information on any of these topics.

509-527-4434



## Crime Victim Services

509-524-4526

Walla Walla County

The Crime Victim Service Center can assist you with any questions you may have regarding a crime committed against you.



[www.wwacw.com](http://www.wwacw.com)

## Police Non—Emergency

509-527-1960

## Emergency

Fire—Ambulance—Police

911

“...not just a property crime”

# Residential Burglary



Date Reported:

Case Number:

Officer:

Walla Walla County  
Crime Victim Services  
54 E. Moore St.  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
509.524.4526



*Dear Burglary Victim:*

*The impact that a burglary can have on you and your family can be very traumatic. It is not just a property crime.*

*Apprehending the criminal and trying to recover your property is now the responsibility of the police.*

*Regardless of whether or not we are successful in our investigation, we want you to know that we are concerned about how this crime is affecting you.*

*This brochure was designed to assist you in recovering from the effects of this experience.*

*Scott Bieber  
Chief of Police*

## The Investigation

A uniformed police officer has obtained the offense report. Also, depending on the circumstances, the officer may have attempted to recover evidence, such as processing for latent fingerprints or canvassing the neighborhood for witnesses. This is what will happen next:

- A copy of the report will be distributed for all patrol officers to review.
- The Public Information Officer may provide the hundred block address and some details of the offense to the local media (but not your name or exact address).
- The Sgt. of Detectives will evaluate the solvability factors of your case, based on available evidence and classify the case as active or inactive.
- Evidence will be held for investigative purposes. Recovered fingerprints can only be identified by the WA State Crime Lab; if the burglar has been fingerprinted in the past. This process may take several months.
- Recovered stolen property may be marked for release from the police evidence room, unless needed for the investigation.
- Pawn tickets are checked as time and staffing allow. **You should always write down serial numbers of your electronics, firearms, bicycles, etc.** This

allows for easier recovery if the item is pawned.

## Active Cases

This designation is reserved for cases that have leads to be followed and a possibility of being solved. A lead would include:

- The name of a suspect, or a vehicle tag number.
- An identifiable fingerprint.
- A distinctive method of operation that ties it to other existing cases.

An active case will be assigned to a detective who will be in contact with you.

## Inactive Cases

Your case is important to us, but without active leads it will be designated as “inactive.” If a lead develops through other investigations you will be contacted by the detective handling your case. The fact is, a small number of criminals commit a high percentage of burglaries.

Aggressive follow up of “active leads” is the best way for us to prevent further crimes in your area and often results in solving many burglary cases at one time.

## Protect yourself against Home Burglary

Most home burglars don't give a great amount of thought to planning the job! They are looking for the quick in and out!

Understanding how they choose a target can go a long way in reducing your chances of being coming a

## Report Additional Information

If you become aware of any additional information you should contact the police department:  
(509)-527-4434

## Case Number

The case number serves as a tracking device for your report. Be sure to have it available when providing any information about your case.

victim.

Did you know that more burglaries occur during the day because homes tend to be vacant more often!

## Most burglars look for easy targets

- Something worth stealing and easy access combined with low visibility.

## Make your home a harder target

- Fool them by making your home look occupied all the time by using automatic timers when away from home.
- Do not hide spare keys outside your home. Instead give one to a trusted neighbor.
- Ask a neighbor to pick up your mail and newspaper when you are out of town.

## Eliminate hiding places

- Keep your shrubs low to the ground to prevent hiding places
- Make sure there is good lighting around the place you park your vehicle and at the front and back entrances to your home — **try a motion sensor light.**

## Use Common Sense

- Always lock your doors and windows when you leave your house.
- Use a peephole to identify visitors before opening it.
- Talk to your family members or roommates about security issues.

