

**Statewide Security**  
*32 Years of Service*  
**January 2011**



# Security News

**Burglar and Fire detection, Video Surveillance, Access Control, Gate Automation**

## Proactive or Reactive?

Most of our clients are proactive in that they decided to protect themselves and what they value before any untoward event occurred at their home or business. The balance of our clients employed us reactively; after they've had a loss. Part of our job is to let you know how the criminal is thinking, what he is doing to circumvent your protective systems and how to best adapt security before the criminal strikes. The following are case examples of things that are happening with some of our clients.

One client in the Seattle Arboretum area told me that they had 10 burglaries and 25 car break-ins in the prior week in his neighborhood.

Kirkland is getting slammed pretty hard. Our Operations Manager lives in the Finn Hill area and they have had three burglaries and numerous car break ins in the past few weeks. The Modus Operandi there is that they are prying up the garage door, breaking the connecting arm to the garage door opener and gaining access to the house that way. What would happen at your house if intruders gained access to your garage? I am adding a contact to my garage door to protect against this form of entry.

A new client in Kirkland, home alone with a

small child at 10:00 PM, heard her 150 pound dog barking insistently and when she went to see what the dog was barking about she found a man looking in her front entry. When he saw her he just casually turned and walked away. He wasn't the least concerned about her dog which tells me that had he gained entry he likely had pepper spray to deal with her dog and perhaps her as well.

We had one of our work trucks burglarized in front of the shop in Redmond late November. They punched a lock to gain access to hand tools. We've now installed specialized puck locks that make it almost impossible to open the doors. If you have a truck or other vehicle at risk, call and I'll send you the information on these special locks.

One of our clients who lives on the Sammamish Plateau came home to find a King County Sheriff's patrol car in her driveway. He was writing out a false alarm notice when he and the owner walked up to the front door to find a man's muddy boot print 4 ft. up in the middle of her door. We had recommended to the client that she replace the 3/4 inch screws holding her door in place to avoid having them fail during an intrusion attempt and her son installed 3 inch screws. The Sheriff's Deputy told her the violent kicking of her door is generally successful in getting the door to come off the hinges and that the longer screws kept her door on. The intruders next walked through her planter, peeled off the

screen to her laundry window and realized she had her German Sheppard dog in the laundry room so the intruders left empty handed.

I spoke to an Eastside city police officer this week who said that vehicle burglaries, commercial thefts at night and residential burglaries during the daytime are all way up.

Our client, Jim B. ,told us about two new scams. The bad guys peeled all the copper downspouts and gutters off a church near his home in Seattle a few weeks ago. This will cost the church thousands of dollars to replace. The meth heads probably got \$50 for the metal when they sold it at the recycling yard. Jim also reminded us that the hard drives on our obsolete or dead copiers and other electronic devices contain all sorts of sensitive information such as credit card and Identity Theft information. We take those drives and destroy them by drilling holes in them and breaking them apart with a sledge hammer. He watched a news show where hundreds of used computers and copiers were being shipped to China where there is a massive ID theft problem.

I had an interesting call from a married woman who had a stalker at her last place of employment. The stalker is a man who obviously knows a great deal about her personally and he has ordered over 250 periodicals delivered to her home. She has to contact a new company almost every week and tell them she did not subscribe to their literature. The stalker has also ordered up life insurance policies on her children. She moved to the Seattle area, started a new job and recently received a phone call that she allowed her husband to listen in to where the caller gave her enough information about her activities to confirm he

had in fact been watching her home. He explained how he intended this woman to be his, in spite of having a husband. Understandably this scared the heck out of her and she received advice on possible means of protecting her family.

We have a team of experts to handle situations like this to protect victims from stalkers. In the majority of instances we can identify a stalker using high definition video surveillance with night vision and excellent detective work. We develop a plan to protect the victim and to inhibit the activities of the stalker, including prosecution. Two of our clients have been able to get felony convictions on stalkers who were after them.

### **I Phones, Blackberries and Androids:**

Want to control your alarm system or remotely view video from your home or business from your cell phone? Call us, we're the experts!



**Back up batteries:** You have at least one in your security system and possibly several of them to carry the alarm and camera equipment during a power outage. They have a life typically between 3 and 5 years unless they go through two or more extensive discharges. Once that happens they will appear to charge up but the batteries sulphate and they don't hold much amperage. Call to get them replaced so they work when you need them.



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