



# 5 STEPS TO A SAFER NEIGHBORHOOD

## STEP 1

### Get to Know Your Neighbors

- Exchange phone numbers (home, work, cell)
- Learn each other's routines (work schedules, vacation plans, guests' visits, scheduled workers)
- Regularly check on elderly neighbors
- Volunteer to pick up your neighbor's newspapers when they are gone
- Organize or join a Neighborhood Watch Group for your block\*

## STEP 2

### Don't be a Target

- Have plenty of lighting around your home; use motion sensors, if possible
- Don't leave window or doors open, even on a hot day, if you are not home
- Leave lights on inside your home or use timers when you're gone
- Lock your car and keep valuables out of sight
- Secure gates and fences that are easily accessible
- Have keys ready when coming home; don't fumble around at your door
- Check your surroundings when approaching your door at night
- Be wary of solicitors at your door, even in the day time
- Solitary females and the elderly are more likely to be targeted after dark. If you don't have to be out, stay home with the doors locked.

## STEP 3

### Report Suspicious Activity

- Call 225-389-2000 whenever something looks unusual (strange cars with people in them in front of houses; strangers checking out houses or cars, persons in the alleyways.)
- Have a pen and paper handy to write down details that could help police

## STEP 4

### Get Out and About

- Walk around your neighborhood or sit on your front porch as much as possible
- Encourage your neighbors to get out with you

## STEP 5

### Keep Our Neighborhoods Neat and Clean

- Pick up trash, even if it's not yours or in front of your house
- Keep yards maintained and looking good
- Trim hedges that can be used as hiding places

\*The GDCA currently does NOT have an organized Neighborhood Watch. Please email us at [gdcabr@gmail.com](mailto:gdcabr@gmail.com) if you are interested in starting one.