



Protecting Your Business

SIMPLE STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT
YOUR BUSINESS & YOUR EMPLOYEES

Contact Information

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The DRAW

- ▶ Criminals are known to gravitate to easy targets.
 - ▶ Most likely opportunity crimes
 - ▶ Open doors, windows
 - ▶ Ladders to access points
 - ▶ Unlocked vehicles
 - ▶ Items, purses, wallets, electronics in plain view
 - ▶ Poorly lit areas
 - ▶ Shrubbery blocking view

Police Involvement

- ▶ In order to enforce a trespass....
 - ▶ Must show a pattern
 - ▶ Must document
 - ▶ Must give opportunity to leave
 - ▶ **MUST HAVE A VICTIM!!!!!!**

Police Involvement

- ▶ Issue needs to be reported immediately. Do not wait!
 - ▶ Otherwise, we are unaware
- ▶ Must Have a desire to prosecute
- ▶ Valid Trespass Letter of Authority on file
- ▶ Staff to be trained on your internal procedures
 - ▶ Ok to call police
 - ▶ When to call police

What Can I Do?

- ▶ This is your investment
 - ▶ We can't tell you how to spend your money
 - ▶ Only tips (not everything applies to your building or business)
- ▶ Weigh your costs
 - ▶ Cheaper to continue repairs at location?
 - ▶ Initial investment will save over time?
 - ▶ Lack or loss of tenants? Customers?
- ▶ Partner with surrounding businesses to save money on costs?
- ▶ Invest in your investment

CPTED Model

- ▶ Crime prevention through environmental design
 - ▶ Not always applicable on existing buildings
 - ▶ Should be looked at when new construction or new location
- ▶ Simply put CPTED is a proactive design philosophy built around a core set of principles that is based on the belief that the proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime as well as an improvement in the quality of life.

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ Lighting

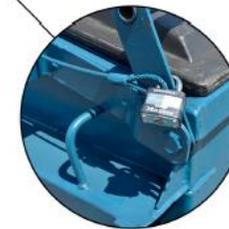
- ▶ Adequate lighting is important.
 - ▶ Allows you to see who is coming and going
 - ▶ Does not give a person a place to hide
 - ▶ Allows others to see who is loitering around your business or building
- ▶ <https://www.sce.com/business/>
 - ▶ Edison could pay the cost of the upgrade
 - ▶ Reduced electrical costs
 - ▶ Environmental impact

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ Trash Cans

- ▶ Securing of Trash Area – Locked Enclosures
- ▶ Securing of Trash Cans – Locked Trash Bin
 - ▶ **One-Time Fee \$56.01**
 - ▶ Call 800-755-8112
- ▶ Do not leave items out for transients to rummage
- ▶ Clean regularly

Is your business having an issue with illegal dumping or the impacts of homelessness?



For a nominal, one-time fee, you can exchange your regular trash bin for a bin with a locking lid. Please contact CR&R's Customer Service Team for further information, **800.755.8112**.



Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ Landscape

- ▶ Have a changing sprinkler schedule to deter people from sleeping in common areas
- ▶ Keep bushes low to reduce areas people can hide, store items, or sleep in.
- ▶ Drought resistant and rocks do not provide a comfortable sleeping surface
- ▶ Eliminate flat benches
 - ▶ Benches and seating areas should not be conducive to sleep

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ Exterior of buildings

- ▶ Remove ladders, scaffolding, etc.
 - ▶ Transients are known to sleep on roofs to stay out of sight
 - ▶ Remove/lock all tools, mops, water sources and electrical sources
- ▶ Lock all doors upon closing
- ▶ Well lit entrance and exit locations in times of darkness

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ Alarm and Security

- ▶ Alarm Systems Should Be in good working order
 - ▶ Responder should be available if alarm is tripped
 - ▶ Train all staff with codes and security saying if applicable

▶ Cameras

- ▶ Invest in a good system, you get what you pay for
- ▶ Train all managers/key holders how to access the system
 - ▶ Swift and immediate transfer of criminal information can result in apprehension of suspects
- ▶ Save all video of incidents to be readily available
 - ▶ Computer Failure/ Human Error

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

- ▶ **Walk and inspect your property**
 - ▶ Look for signs of encampment
 - ▶ Trash
 - ▶ Tents
 - ▶ Personal Items
 - ▶ Vacant Buildings should not look Vacant
 - ▶ Regular inspection of buildings
 - ▶ Maintain Landscape and Cleanliness
 - ▶ Turn off or limit utilities
 - ▶ Know your tenants, neighbors, customers
 - ▶ Second set of eyes

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ WIFI

- ▶ Change password regularly
 - ▶ Make customers ask for password
 - ▶ Keeps people from loitering in and around business

▶ **Do not let business become a meeting place for non-customers**

- ▶ “If you give a mouse a cookie, He’s going to ask for a glass of milk. When you give him the milk, he’ll probably ask you for a straw. When he’s finished, he’ll ask for a napkin. Then he will want to look in a mirror to make sure he doesn’t have a milk mustache.”
 - ▶ The more you give the more someone will want!!!

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

▶ It's your business

- ▶ Ask for ID

- ▶ Limit your return policy

- ▶ Go Digital

- ▶ Paper receipts allow people to go to other stores and return stolen items causing loss of revenue

- ▶ Smaller retailers take biggest hit

- ▶ Does not allow associates to take information for illegal use

- ▶ No Spam Policy

- ▶ Lets customers know you will not send unwanted information

- ▶ Transients find receipts, steal the items and then return.

- ▶ Easy way to get money

Crime Prevention and Homeless Deterrence

- ▶ **Do not allow people to solicit in front of business without permission**
 - ▶ Did you know the Girl Scouts request permission from every retailer each year
 - ▶ People and organizations need to respect your establishment
- ▶ **Invest in Security Patrol**
 - ▶ Multiple stops per night
 - ▶ Second Set of Eyes
 - ▶ Can Call 911 if emergency arises at your location
 - ▶ Possible to join coop with other business and property owners

Discussion/Questions?

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