Home Security Checklist

Created: 1/1/2012

# Tasks:

☐ **Interior - General**

☐ **There is a smoke detector in hallways near bedrooms, near family room and kitchen, top of any stairway and garage.**

☐ **Smoke detectors are tested once a month.**

☐ **There are fire extinguishers in your kitchen, garage, and basement.**

☐ **Members of your household know exactly what to do in case of emergency.**

☐ **Valuable documents and possessions are stored in a fire-rated safe.**

☐ **Guns are safely stored in a locked box, safe, or vault.**

☐ **Guns are stored separately from the ammunition.**

☐ **Every window in the house has a working key lock or is securely pinned.**

☐ **Interior - While You're Away**

☐ **Several lights in your home are set up on automatic timers.**

☐ **There is a working home alarm system.**

☐ **The alarm is armed before you leave.**

☐ **Mail and newspaper deliveries have been stopped.**

☐ **A friend or neighbor has been asked to tend the yard and watch our home when away.**

☐ **Your telephone answering machine doesn't announce: "We're not home right now?"**

☐ **Exterior**

☐ **All doors are locked at night and every time you leave the house.**

☐ **Exterior doors have a good-quality deadbolt lock.**

☐ **All latch-strike plates on your exterior doors secured with at least 3" screws.**

☐ **Glass panels in or near the doors are reinforced in some way so that they cannot be shattered.**

☐ **Exterior doors without glass have a wide-angle door viewer installed for identifying visitors.**

☐ **Doors are solid hardwood or metal-clad.**

☐ **All doors are locked when you are home for the night or when you leave your residence.**

☐ **Exterior man-door and the door from the garage into your home have quality deadbolts.**

☐ **Overhead garage door is always closed, even when you are home.**

☐ **Front entrance and all other entrances are lit well enough to enable you to identify visitors at night.**

☐ **Motion sensors control exterior lighting.**

☐ **Spare keys are kept with a trusted neighbor, not under a doormat or planter, on a ledge, or in a mailbox.**

☐ **House number is clearly displayed so emergency vehicles can find the house quickly.**

☐ **Landscaping and Exterior Entries**

☐ **Shrubs and bushes are trimmed so there is no place for someone to hide.**

☐ **There are no dark areas around our house and garage.**

☐ **Tree limbs been trimmed to prevent access to upper floor windows or balconies.**

☐ **"Prickly" or thorny shrubbery are planted near windows to discourage loitering or hiding.**

☐ **All outdoor foliage is trimmed to prevent obstruction of exterior lighting.**

☐ **All gates are locked with a quality, weatherproof padlock.**

☐ **All sheds or outbuildings are secured with a quality, weatherproof padlock.**

☐ **All valuables stored outside are secured to a fixed, immovable object.**