Tips for success

- Build a relationship with your local government partners; they want to help you be a success.
- Keep your cash register in plain view from the outside of your business, so it can be monitored by police.
- Keep cash registers locked when not in use. Leave cash drawers empty and open after hours, so criminals can see you have nothing to take.
- Secure all obvious points of entry such as roof vents, ducts, or roof access doors to prevent unauthorized entry.
- Request valid ID and verify customer signatures before completing credit card or check purchases.
- Be aware of a customer who makes several small purchases by check or credit card.
- Advertise a policy of prosecuting all shoplifters.
- If you are robbed, don’t fight them off, call 911 immediately.
- Do not work alone. If so, turn on a radio or television in a back room to suggest someone else is present.
- Call 311, use the 311 app, or visit www.311.saccounty.net for:
  - Abandoned vehicles
  - Shopping carts
  - Code violations
  - Street light problems
  - Illegal dumping
  - Potholes
  - Graffiti

- Use signs and stickers to warn that you are a member of Business Watch.
- Follow CPTED recommendations.

Important Contacts

- Emergency: 911
- Code Enforcement: 311

Sacramento County District Attorney
www.sacda.org
- Main Line: 916.874.6218
- Community Prosecution Unit: communityprosecution@sacda.org

Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office
www.sacsheriff.com
- Non-emergency: 916.874.5115
- North (of the American River): 916.876.5717
- Problem Oriented Policing: northPOP@sacsheriff.com
- Homeless Outreach Team (HOT): northhot@sacsheriff.com
- South (of the American River): 916.876.8322
- Crime Prevention Specialist: 916.874.4468
- Homeless Outreach Team (HOT): centralhot@sacsheriff.com
- East (South of Highway 50): 916.875.5852
- Crime Prevention Specialist: 916.874.1028
- Homeless Outreach Team (HOT): eastHOT@sacsheriff.com

Sacramento Police
www.sacpd.org
- Non-emergency: 916.264.5471

Sacramento County
- Board of Supervisors: 916.874.5411
- Building Permits & Inspections: 916.875.5296
- Business Licenses: 916.874.6644
- Flooding (street), Drainage, Drinking Water: 916.875.RAIN
- Waste Management: 916.875.6789
- Sacramento Crime Alert: 916.433.HELP

Sacramento Business Watch
We Immediately Report All Suspicious People and Activities to Law Enforcement

Sacramento Crime Alert
www.CrimeAlert.org

We Immediately Report All Suspicious People and Activities to Law Enforcement

Sacramento County
- CONNECT
  - 311
  - Homeless Outreach Team (HOT): centralhot@sacsheriff.com

Sacramento County District Attorney’s Office
A CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR BUSINESS MERCHANTS

Sacramento Police
www.sacpd.org
- Non-emergency: 916.264.5471

Sacramento County
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We Immediately Report All Suspicious People and Activities to Law Enforcement
What is Business Watch?
Business Watch is a crime prevention program that encourages businesses to participate in crime reduction efforts by working with law enforcement. It enables businesses to take an active role in preventing and reducing crime by sharing information, raising awareness, and training employees how to recognize criminal activity.

Why join Business Watch?
Law enforcement cannot be at every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime.

As a member of a Business Watch, you can be the eyes and ears of law enforcement in your place of business and community. By making the effort to report criminal activity, you are making your business and the businesses around you a safer place.

"Business Watch programs deter and detect crimes and diminish opportunities for crime."
- National Crime Prevention Council

What can you do?
- Start or join a Business Watch group by contacting your neighborhood law enforcement crime prevention specialist.
- Share business contact information such as emails, phone numbers, and addresses with other businesses.
- Attend regular meetings with businesses and county agencies, including code enforcement, law enforcement, and the community prosecutor to share information.
- Start a crime prevention newsletter that business owners or volunteers can distribute.
- Report neighborhood code issues by calling 311.
- Call law enforcement when a crime occurs at your business. It matters!
- Get involved! Organize community cleanups and business promotions.

JOIN TODAY!

How can law enforcement help?
- **Teach** businesses how not to be a target of crime.
- **Assist** business owners in implementing Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.
- **Partner** with county agencies to strategize and reduce nuisance activity.
- **Learn** how to properly use Notice of Trespass forms and applicable laws.
- **Conduct** Neighborhood needs assessments.
- **Provide** information about crime trends and criminal activity.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)
CPTED is a concept businesses can apply to reduce criminal activity. It uses physical design features that discourage crime, while at the same time encourages legitimate use of your business.

This includes:
- Keeping windows unobstructed to create visual surveillance.
- Securing garbage, water, and electrical outlets.
- Landscape design to prevent loiterers and criminals.
- Surveillance cameras and security.
- Business address clearly posted with large numbers.
- Cheap locks don't work, so use sturdy deadbolts.
- Replace hollow-core doors with solid-construction doors.
- Lights deter thieves; keep areas appropriately lit and have motion activated lights in dark areas.

Before CPTED

After CPTED