



Construction Site Crime Prevention

Large construction sites are frequently victimized by the theft of machinery, equipment, tools and materials. Because each site is different, job sites will require a variety of protective measures and programs. The following are a series of crime prevention recommendations designed to minimize or reduce the theft of property from the construction job site.

Identify Assets & Property

All assets on a construction site should be identified, inventoried, and tracked as closely as is practical. Employees should be encouraged to remove their personal property at the end of each day.

Surveillance of the Job Site

The construction company's crime prevention coordinator should contact neighbors around the job site including residents, businesses, bus drivers, cab drivers, etc. and solicit their support in maintaining a safe and secure job site. Emphasize the concern for personal safety as well as property security.

Supervisory Personnel Should Control Keys

The control of keys is essential on a site. Keys should be issued to as few people as possible. The company crime prevention coordinator should maintain a log of issued keys including the type of key issued, to whom, on what date, and for what purpose. Unissued keys should be secured and extra keys should be kept to a minimum. Keys should not be hidden on the job site and key control numbers should be removed from padlocks. To prevent unauthorized duplication, keys can be "plugged" with a rivet through the bow as a means of preventing alignment needed for machine duplication.

Lock or Guard Gates When Not in Use

The number of gates accessing the job site should be kept to a minimum. Strange or unrecognized vehicles on the site should be challenged. If possible and practical to do so, uniformed guards should be utilized during working hours to check vehicles entering and leaving the job site. Gates should be closed and locked at night and on weekends and holidays.

Secure Tools & Equipment When Not in Use

Storage sheds or fenced areas should be provided on the job site for the secure storage of tools and equipment. When vehicular equipment is not in use, ignition keys should be removed and the cabs locked. Oil and gas tank caps should be locked. Machines can be disabled with hidden ignition cutout switches.

Lighting the Job Site

Lighting can be an effective deterrent to theft and vandalism on the site. It is particularly effective in deterring the casual or impulse offender. Among the points on the job site that should be highlighted by lighting are the office trailers, equipment storage trailers, material storage yard, and any equipment storage areas. Lighting systems triggered by a motion detector or a passive infrared sensor are also recommended for the job site.

Security Companies & Guard Dogs

It may be advisable to employ the services of a bonded and insured security company either to maintain guard staff on-site or to make periodic patrols of the construction job site. Police departments often do not have the staff to make periodic patrols of the sites or may be tied up dealing with emergencies or other priorities. An advantage of using a contract private security service is that they can be given access to patrol inside the job site as well as the perimeter. They can also be given the responsibility for checking lighting and alarm systems on the job site, as well as the integrity of fencing.

General Security Recommendations

“No Trespassing” signs should be prominently displayed on fencing or the perimeter of the job site. Such signs discourage unauthorized intrusion onto the job site and, if correctly worded, aids in the prosecution of apprehended trespassers. “No Trespassing” signs and other warnings of danger can help protect the company from liability for possible injuries to trespassers or strangers.

Trespass affidavit may be obtained from the City of Doral Police Department. This would allow police officers to issue trespass warning on behalf of the construction company.

Special Announcement

Copper wires seem to be a hot item. The City of Doral Police Department would appreciate notification when a delivery of such material arrives at the construction site.

Free security survey may be requested through the City of Doral Police Department at NRUinfo@doralpd.com or by calling Officer Feliciano or Officer Martinez at (305) 593-6699 ext 2116.