 LODI POLICE DEPARTMENT

 COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT

 ***Detective Sergeant Anthony Mobilio***

 One Memorial Drive

 Lodi, New Jersey 07644

 Tel: 973-473-7600 Ext. 8126

 ***amobilio@lodipd.org***

Vincent A. Quatrone Donald Scorzetti

Chief of Police Deputy Chief of Police

***HOME SECURITY SURVEY***

 ******

***HOME SECURITY SURVEY***

***GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS***

***FOR IMPROVED RESIDENTIAL SECURITY***

*Citizens have an equal responsibility in crime prevention. No one should have to live in a fortress, but citizens must be made aware that they can reduce crime by reducing the criminal opportunity. There is no way to make a home impenetrable, but there are many ways to discourage or slow down the average burglar.*

* A home should appear occupied day and night.
* The interior should be checked before leaving.
* Valuables and cash should be stored in inconspicuous or camouflaged hiding places throughout the house. A burglar commonly checks bedrooms, dining areas, kitchens and refrigerators. Valuable objects should not be displayed in plain view of windows.
* Keep a complete list of valuable items in a safe place. Include serial numbers and color photographs.
* Always lock the home using heavy duty deadbolt locks. Protect your keys by only lending to trusted friends and relatives. Never hide a key outside. Replace the lock if a key is lost or stolen.
* Close and lock windows, screens and storm windows. Arrange window shades in normal position as if the house were occupied.
* Set electrical timers to turn lights on and off during the evening hours to duplicate normal patterns. A radio or ipod, best tuned to a talk/news station can be controlled by a timer during the day, giving the house an occupied sound.
* Turn down the volume control of the telephone ringer to its lowest setting when not home so that it cannot be heard from outside.
* When leaving the residence, you should keep in mind that a potential burglar may see this.
* The garage door or any connecting door to the house should be locked with heavy duty deadbolt locks.
* House and garden equipment, lawn furniture, ladders and garbage cans should not be left outside where they could be used to gain access to a high window or ledge.
* Install a mailbox large enough to conceal magazines and small packages delivered while the house is unoccupied. Arrange receptacles with cooperating neighbors for newspapers and other package deliveries which may arrive.
* Do not post messages which indicate an empty house or time of return.
* If possible, leave a locked car parked in the driveway blocking access to the garage.
* Repair windows, doors and window locks without delay.

*When going on vacation, there are extra precautions you can take such as the following:*

* Transfer valuables and cash to a safe deposit box or bank account.
* Notify the police department about departure items and return dates, supply a local name and phone number to be reached in the event of an emergency.
* Stop all mail delivery and newspaper delivery or have a neighbor pick it up daily.
* Leave an itinerary or emergency phone number where you can be reached with a trusted name or number.
* Schedule the lawn to be cut to its normal appearance. Prune shrubbery or plants so that they will not be over gown and hide the view of your home from a neighbor’s observation. In winter, arrange for snow shoveling or “we are home” tracks in the snow.
* Ask a neighbor to place some of their garbage out for pick up at your home to maintain a normal routine.
* Turn off any automatic lawn sprinklers.
* Let the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, if you have one, know of your plans to be away.
* Do not post vacation plans or photographs on social media sites until after you have returned home.