



# TOWN OF PALM BEACH

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN



October 28, 2015

#### **CRIME PREVENTION ALERT – CONSTRUCTION SITE THEFT**

Palm Beach Police are alerting builders, developers and contractors that there has been an increase in criminal activity and theft at construction sites. Contractors are reminded of the importance of securing their equipment and vehicles at all times. Always lock all doors and turn on the alarm system. All equipment and valuables should be secured.

The Palm Beach Police Department has implemented strategies to identify trespassers on construction sites and will assertively enforce laws concerning construction sites. Florida law provides that trespassing on a construction site is a felony. Contractors can obtain free “No Trespassing” signs at the Palm Beach Police Department. Signs can be picked up or delivered to your site. Once your construction job is complete just return the signs to the police department or take them to your new construction site in the Town of Palm Beach.

Contractors click on the below link for more information on our free “No Trespassing” signs for construction sites: <http://townofpalmbeach.com/documentcenter/view/567>

Crime Prevention Suggestions:

- Ensure construction site is properly posted with “No Trespassing” signs - free signs can be obtained from the Palm Beach Police Department.
- Record equipment serial numbers or specific markings to make identification and return of equipment possible by law enforcement agencies.
- Remove keys from equipment (ignition) when not in use.
- Remove wires or the battery and lower all blades/buckets to help immobilize large equipment.
- Ensure employees know the boss is paying attention.
- Schedule supplies as needed, keep good records, and practice effective inventory management.
- Have a pre-construction crime prevention meeting with the developer and builders to discuss possible crime prevention initiatives and encourage active participation.
- Install theft prevention devices and locks to disable fuel, hydraulic and/or electrical system in heavy equipment.

If you have been the victim of construction site theft and have not yet reported it, please do so immediately by calling (561) 838-5454.

You can make a difference. *If you see something – say something.* Trust your instincts and call 9-1-1 if you notice any suspicious activity around a construction site.