

## **Bent Tree West Security Update**

### **Learn how you can avoid being the next victim of Crime in BTW**

Bent Tree West is one of the safest neighborhoods in Dallas thanks to the comprehensive set of crime prevention programs we've implemented. BTW Crime Watch, The Eyes of BTW Video Surveillance and Volunteers in Patrol VIP, as well as a close working relationship with the Dallas Police Department have been very successful in reducing most crime. Crimes of opportunity, however, remain higher than we'd like. In the past twelve months we've had 42 car break-ins. Sadly, most were preventable if simple precautions had been taken.

When I speak with our residents who have been victimized by crime I frequently hear them say "Someone should do something about crime in BTW". As I said above the Dallas Police, BTW HOA, The Eyes of BTW and VIP are all doing something, but let me be blunt; no one but you can prevent crimes of opportunity. If you park outside and leave a GPS device on your dash you may find that someone smashed your window to take it. We have had car windows smashed to take sunglasses and cell phone chargers! Frequently the damage to the car far exceeds the value of items taken. So what can you do?

Short term: here are a few Car Crime prevention tips

1. If you can, park your car in your garage and keep the door closed.
2. If you park outside make sure you have a well lit parking spot.
3. Take everything (yes everything) out of your car.
4. Lock your car and if you have an alarm, use it.

Long term: you need to be aware of what's going on around you and take reasonable precautions. In every BTW Newsletter we include a Crime update keeping you informed on what's going on and what you can do to protect your family and your property.

The BTW Newsletter is sent out to all BTW residents who request it; you do not have to be a member of the HOA. All that is needed is your email address. It doesn't cost you anything, no one will bug you to join, and we never share our residents' information. Send an email to [BTWHOA-Board@yahoo.com](mailto:BTWHOA-Board@yahoo.com) to request that your email be added to our list.

To everyone who is a member of the BTWHOA, I say thank you for your support! If you are not a member I urge you to join the HOA to help support everything they do for the betterment of BTW. Please help us keep BTW a safer place to live!

Tom Clatterbuck  
BTW VIP Captain  
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