



Don't Let Your Business Become A Crime Statistic



“There’s a burglary every 12 seconds.¹ Those thefts annually combine for more than \$3.1 billion in property and personal loss.”¹

If you own a business, you know how seriously theft – from burglars or even your own employees – can affect your bottom line. Being aware of what you may face daily can help reduce your chances of becoming another business crime statistic.

From The Outside In – Burglary

According to the FBI, there’s a burglary every 12 seconds.¹ Those thefts annually combine for more than \$3.1 billion in property and personal loss.¹ So how do burglars get into your business?

- Six of 10 burglaries involve forcible entry¹
- About a third were unlawful entries¹
- The rest – a little over six percent – were attempted forcible entries¹

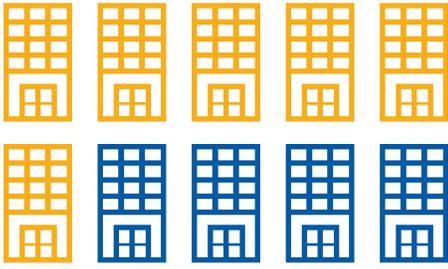
In a recent university study of convicted burglars, the primary ways in which they gained access were through open windows or doors or by forcible entry through windows or doors. Only about one in eight burglars reported picking locks or using a key they had previously acquired.²

Not surprisingly, most commercial burglaries occur at night, weekends or holidays when many businesses aren’t open.¹

Do burglar alarm systems help?

Burglars don’t like getting caught. The university survey found that more than 8 in 10 convicted burglars said they would look for an alarm before attempting a burglary. If they found an on-site alarm, 60 percent said they would seek an alternative target.²

Half of the burglars who discovered an alarm while attempting a burglary would discontinue and try to leave. And about three-quarters of all uncompleted burglaries can be credited to an audible alarm.²



“More than six in 10 businesses have been victims of employee theft.”³

Here’s an even more convincing statistic that burglar alarms can be helpful.

- Businesses without alarms are 4.5 times more likely to be burglarized than those that have an alarm system.²

It’s clear that burglar alarms can have a significant impact in helping your business reduce losses from burglary. Here are a couple of other quick tips that can help:

- Clear your entrances and windows of trees and shrubs that block views from the street and/or provide a hiding place for thieves
- Secure your doors with sturdy deadbolt locks or padlocks
- Install bars or gates on windows to help prevent them being broken and used as an entry
- Motion sensor-activated lighting and alarms can also help deter burglars

From the Inside – Employee Theft

As if it wasn’t enough to worry about burglars, you also have to be aware of potential employee theft. Studies show that more than six in 10 businesses have been victims of employee theft.³

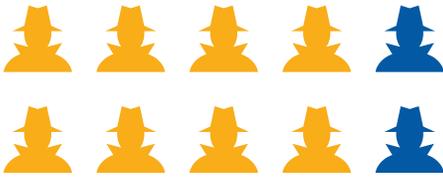
What do they steal?

Many people have “borrowed” a pen from their employer, but some employees go for much larger payoffs. For example:

- 40 percent of thefts in small businesses were of money, ranging from \$5 to an eye-popping \$2 million. The average amount stolen – \$20,000 – would be a major loss to virtually any employer³
- About two in 10 thefts involved products sold by the business. Most of those were materials that go into the production of final products³
- About six percent were of employers’ equipment with the remaining thefts being of office supplies – paper towels, staples and, of course, pens³

What can you do to protect yourself?

Here are a few ideas that might help you reduce your chances of becoming a crime statistic.



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- Conduct a background check on prospective employees
- Install an access control system allowing employees to enter only those areas needed for them to do their jobs
- Place security cameras around areas where money is exchanged or kept
- Make daily bank deposits to minimize the amount of cash on the premises
- Close and lock doors to areas where valuable products or supplies are stored. Use fencing and locked gates to protect equipment and supplies kept outdoors

Prevention and Protection

Security equipment such as locks, video intercoms, access control and security cameras can help act as barriers or a deterrent to crime.



Keeping your business safe and protected can be a job by itself. That's why it makes sense to partner with a dedicated professional security provider like Tyco Integrated Security. We've been helping to protect businesses like yours in communities across the US for 140 years.

Together, we can help reduce your chances of becoming a crime statistic.

1. Crime in the United States, 2012, Federal Bureau of Investigation
2. Study Provides Insights on Habits and Motivations of Burglars, 2013, University of North Carolina, Charlotte — Interviews with more than 400 convicted burglary offenders
3. Surprising Survey: Most Small Businesses Remain Silent Rather Than Report Employee Theft, 2014, University of Cincinnati — A survey of business owners regarding employee-related crime

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