



Martin County Sheriff's Office

800 SE Monterey Road

Stuart, Florida 34994

“Things your Burglar Won’t Tell you”

1. Of course I look familiar, I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.
2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.
3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste...And taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.
4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.
5. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see it it's set. That makes it too easy.
6. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor, which often access the master bedroom...and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.
7. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door...understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.
8. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it).
9. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.
10. Here's a helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.
11. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.
12. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a \$35 device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television. (Find it at faketv.com.)
13. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.
14. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.
15. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.
16. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?
17. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.
18. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.
19. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.
20. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

NNWI INVENTORY OF HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ENGRAVED WITH DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER

- Adding Machines & Calculators
- Appliances
- Autos
- Bicycles
- Binoculars
- Blenders
- Cameras
- CB Radios
- Compact Disc Players
- Clocks
- Computer Equipment
- Fishing Equipment
- Furniture
- Golf Clubs
- Guns
- Hub Caps
- Mag Wheels
- Metal Lock Boxes
- Microwave Ovens
- Mixers
- Motorcycles
- Radios
- Sewing Machines
- Sports Equipment
- Stereo Equipment
- Tape Decks
- Televisions
- Tools
- Typewriters
- Video Recorders and Cameras
- Virtually anything that can be turned into cash!!

CREDIT CARD LISTINGS:

List Credit Cards Companies and Account Numbers Here, with Phone Numbers to Report Them Lost or Stolen

Items that are frequently stolen because they can easily be sold to a fence, at a swap meet or pawn shop:

Ideally, engrave your property in two locations: One obvious and one hidden. Engrave on solid components, not those that are easily replaced

Keep one copy of this record in a safe place.

Keep one copy readily accessible so you can provide immediate information to your police or sheriff if necessary.

If you want to sell your engraved property, draw a *single* line through the number. Suggest to the new owner they engrave the property also. If the original number is obliterated, the assumption will be made that it is stolen if picked up by law enforcement.