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# NEW BERN

NEW BERN POLICE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 1129, New Bern, NC 28563-1129  
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*Police and Community come together here.*



Toussaint E. Summers, Jr.  
Chief of Police

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Business Break-ins and Safe Cracking Prevention Tips Public Service Announcement**

In recent weeks, there have been several **business break-ins** resulting in **handguns** and **business safes** being stolen in a neighboring county. The New Bern Police Department suggest the following tips to protect your business and valuables:

### **Business Break-Ins**

- Make sure all outside entrances and inside security doors have deadbolt locks. If you use padlocks, they should be made of steel and kept locked at all times. Remember to remove serial numbers from your locks, to prevent unauthorized keys from being made.
- All outside or security doors should be metal-lined and secured with metal security crossbars. Pin all exposed hinges to prevent removal.
- Windows should have secure locks and burglar-resistant glass. Consider installing metal grates on all your windows except display windows.
- Remove all expensive items from window displays at night and make sure you can see easily into your business after closing.
- Light the inside and outside of your business, especially around doors, windows, skylights, or other entry points. Consider installing covers over exterior lights and power sources to deter tampering.
- Check the parking lot for good lighting and unobstructed views.
- Keep your cash register in plain view from the outside of your business, so it can be monitored by police during the day or at night. Leave it open and empty after closing.
- Before you invest in an alarm system, check with several companies and decide what level of security best fits your needs.

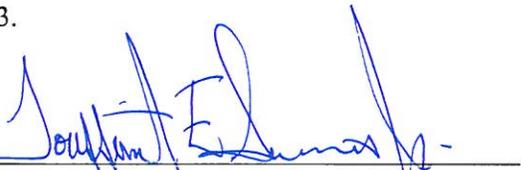


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## Safe Cracking

- Be sure your safe is fireproof and securely anchored. It should be kept in plain view. Leave it open when it's empty, use it to lock up valuables when you close. Remember to change the combination when an employee who has had access to it leaves your business.
- Keep safes located out of plain sight, such as behind a closed door or in a closet
- Make a habit of securing your safe while not accessing items inside
- Secure your safe to a stationary object (a wall or flooring)
- Do not leave keys for your safe lying around in obvious places (nightstands, jewelry boxes, desk drawers, etc.)
- Do not leave passwords or key codes for your safe lying around in obvious places (nightstands, jewelry boxes, desk drawers, etc.)

To have a member of the New Bern Police Department to conduct a Business Security Check contact the Sergeant on duty at 252-672-4100. The New Bern Police Department is committed to partnering with the citizens and businesses to create a safe place to live, work and visit. Citizens are encouraged to become a **"Partner in Policing,"** by reporting suspected illegal activity to the New Bern Police Department's **TIPS** line at **(252) 636-5034** or the Craven County Crime Stoppers line at 633-5141. For additional information, please contact Lieutenant Ronda K. Allen, Public Information Officer at the New Bern Police Department at (252) 672-4123.



**Toussaint E. Summers, Jr., Chief of Police**