

CONSUMER AFFAIRS COMMISSION

**An Agency of the
Ministry of Industry, Investment & Commerce
Prepared June 11, 2008**

CAC 's Crime Tips For The Elderly

Older people are often targets for robbery and scams. During a crime, an older person is more likely to be seriously hurt than someone who can run, scream or even fight back the attacker.

Be a nosy neighbour

The Consumer Affairs Commission (CAC) is reminding all family members that with the crime wave which is currently taking place the elderly may become even more at risk. The CAC is calling on all church groups, community members, family and friends to be always vigilant. Be a nosy neighbour. In the meantime, all senior citizens should do the following:

1. Make sure that your locks, doors, and windows are strong and cannot be broken easily.
2. Check all doors and windows when you are in the house and before you leave.
3. Keep a list of all your valuables and where they are kept. Secure the list with a trusted family member or a safe place.
4. Take pictures of your house. It would be useful, if you have to do repairs, if you have to make a claim after the hurricane season or if you should lose any valuables.
5. Don't open your door before you know who's there.
6. Get information about your visitor before he arrives. If he or she is late do not open the door and assume that the late visitor is the person you are expecting.
7. Do not open the door if you feel uneasy.

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8. Bank all your cash and keep small amounts at a time to take care of odds and ends.
9. Keep your maintenance funds with a trusted relative and request it as you need it.
10. Know your neighbours.
11. Create a visible signal so that your neighbours know when you are in trouble. Get together with neighbours and share contact information.