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CONSTABLE #2 & #3

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Rural Protection Plan

This is an overview of ideas to help prevent criminal and civil issues for Farmers/Ranchers and small business owners that live and operate out in the County. These are just a few ideas, you might use all or a combination of the ideas for your security needs. **(Bold print is speaking points for a presentation)**

Criminal

Don't be a victim:

1. Fencing with gates and locks – **Must first establish boundaries**
2. Security System on residences, shops, barns, and storage buildings - **Lots of companies out there may offer discount on insurance**
3. Wireless alarms at entrances
4. Camera systems at strategic areas
5. Fake cameras at strategic locations
6. Game cameras placed at entrances and points of interest ex. Scrape metal piles & fuel locations – **Lowes, Academy, online shopping Google**
7. When away let us know and make arrangement for someone to pick up mail and/or newspapers or have post office to hold mail or newspaper office to hold papers while away – **Give out telephone numbers to Panola County Constables and Panola County Sheriff Department**
8. Have some indoor lights on timer
9. Leave radio or TV on making noise – **TV will flash screens as a deterrent**
10. Let's not forget man's best friend and an excellent alarm – a dog, but if you don't like dogs, geese & guineas are great alarms

Help us Help You:

1. Document description of valuables such as firearms, electronic equipment, jewelry – **Make, model, color, distinguishing marks, values**
2. Photograph items
3. Record serial numbers

4. Mark items w/ DL numbers ex: saddles and tools – **Explain TX 8 digits or LA 9 digits**
5. Video around property – **Never know what a thief may steal that may not be recorded**
6. Let us know when you are away – **Again, let us know when you are away for an extended period of time**
7. Scrap metal, gates, etc., place identifying marks ex: Driver's License – **Lumber paint one end**
8. Make copies and store information in safe place – **Fire safe box and don't store where items are located Ex: gun cabinet**

Things that reduce the risk of being an easy target: An easy is in a rural setting with no fences, no gates, no alarm system and the ability to hide a vehicle out of sight behind a residence, barn, shop, or etc.

1. Post security alarm sign
2. No trespassing signs/ No soliciting signs
3. Purple paint markings every 100 ft.
4. Beware of dog sign
5. Signs that let visitors know that they are being recorded – **By placing sign you are sending a message and may make them want to move to an easier target**
6. Participate in a community watch program – **A community watch program sends a message to a crook that this neighborhood/community is united and they may want to move on**

What to do if you feel like you are about to be a victim of a crime:

1. Post by telephones emergency contact numbers
2. Post by telephones contact numbers of neighbors, friends, or relatives
3. Program in your telephones emergency #s
4. Post by telephone your physical address – **911 along with other emergency contact numbers should be posted. When some people are under emotional distress they may forget the address or other important information that 911 operator will be asking**
5. Provide description of people that are suspicious
6. Provide description of vehicles on your property or near your property ex: color, make, and license plate
7. Be able to provide direction of travel
8. Don't be afraid to report suspicious activity – **The more information provided to 911 operator will increase law enforcement contact w/ suspicious person**
9. Don't hesitate to request a welfare check – **To many times we go to a crime after the fact and when we talk to possible witnesses we find out that they saw the crime in progress, but thought it was all okay**
10. Have a plan and think what if

If you know you are a victim:

1. Call 911
2. Think about not disturbing the crime scene and protecting it – **Once a crime scene is disturbed it can destroy a case**
3. Write down memorable points while fresh on your mind

Civil

1. Be aware of who has access to your property with names, contact information, emergency contact information, copy of their driver's license, signed release of liability
Ex: oilfield
2. Provide them with note that gives them access to your property with your signature
3. Make them aware of your property rules and have them sign
4. Have fire extinguishers in place
5. Have fire alarms in structures
6. Have evacuation plan posted in view
7. Insist that you have notification that they are on your property
8. Register all livestock with sheriff department for livestock log Ex: breed, color, sex, distinguishing marks and give them your contact information

Popular items for theft:

1. Anything of value
2. Guns
3. Electronic equipment
4. Jewelry
5. Personal information Ex: social security numbers, accounts information
6. Metal Ex. Copper, iron, tin, anything metal
7. Fuels
8. Tools
9. Livestock – **Freeze brand, hot brands, TX DL ear tags, and micro chips**
10. Saddles/Tack
11. Trailers
12. 4-Wheelers
13. Mowers
14. Pets – **Speak to your veterinarian about micro chips**

Other Speaking Points:

- 1. Be cautious of people who solicit**
- 2. Be cautious of people who you know who appear at your residence unannounced**
- 3. Trust your gut, if it seems weird be cautious Ex: Someone you don't know shows up at your house and they want to fish in your pond, it could be that they want to see what you have to steal**
- 4. Don't be afraid to ask to see and record information from someone's drivers license**
- 5. Keep in mind a high percentage of time, the criminal is a person who you know**