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County of Summit



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**ALERT!**

My office has recently prosecuted several cases involving violent home invasions in which the criminals either forced their way into the home or the homeowner opened the door to the criminal.

There are many precautions you can take to prevent this from happening to you. I always tell people to have a plan already in place should someone break into your home. Plan an escape route or place where everyone should go.

Some precautions you might want to consider are:

1. Do not open your door if you are not expecting someone. If they won't leave, call the police and report it.
2. Replace your doors with one that is strong and solid. Reinforce the framework also.
3. Keep all doors and windows locked during the day and at night. If working in the back yard, lock the front door and windows.
4. Use outside lights at night to ward off intruders.
5. Trim trees and bushes around your windows and doors.
6. Put a "Beware of Dog" sign in the yard.

Stay safe,  
Sherri Bevan Walsh  
Summit County Prosecuting Attorney

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