

PACKAGE THEFTS

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Since March, many of our lives have changed due to COVID-19. Those of us who previously enjoyed in person shopping at a store, may now be making even more frequent purchases online. This means more package deliveries to your home or business and increased opportunities for criminals to steal from you.

To avoid theft of packages delivered to your home, we recommend the following prevention tips:

- Get a PO box or locker where deliveries are monitored and secured
- Use tracking numbers and delivery notifications to track your packages
- Bring your package inside as soon as it is delivered
- Ask a neighbor to hold a package for you
- Have items delivered to your place of business if you are not home during the day
- Consider having valuable items insured
- Opt for your package to be delivered to the nearest postal store
- Ask that your package require a signature for delivery confirmation
- Consider having packages delivered to another location where someone is likely to be present during delivery, like a friend or relative
- Use doorbell cameras to monitor deliveries
- Purchase items from known companies and research their policies for related to reimbursement or replacement for stolen items
- Consider a package guard device that will notify you if someone picks up your package without permission
- Reschedule a delivery or ask for a package hold when you are out of town
- Notify the Police Department immediately if you see a crime in progress
 - Be aware that criminals have been known to pose as delivery people wearing orange or yellow vests to blend in

If you believe you are a victim of a theft, report it to the Irvine Police Department immediately by calling (949)724-7200.

For more information on crime prevention and personal safety, please visit CrimePrevention.IrvinePD.org.