

December 12, 2007

To: Andalucia Residents and Lot Owners

From: Andalucia Board of Directors.

## Unlawful Activities within Community

Recently a number of vehicles were entered and personal items removed from the vehicles including keys, cameras, printers, etc. In each incident the vehicle was unlocked and in some cases the keys to the vehicle were inside. In at least one incident the garage was entered as the garage door opener was accessible. While Andalucia is a gated community it is not a secured community in the sense that we do not provide security, but provide for controlled access via the gate attendants. Some actions that we all can do to help prevent such incidents from happening in the future are:

1. Lock your vehicles if they are outside
2. Do not leave your garage door opener in vehicles parked outside
3. Keep your garage doors down when not in use, this also applies during the daytime since a criminal can drive by and see what you have of value.
4. Keep the door leading from the garage to the home locked
5. When you see something that does not appear to be the "norm" take action, call the gate house to report the activity but foremost report it to the sheriff's department. Our local officers have stated they would rather have our resident's report an activity and they respond to find it was nothing than to have to respond later after the fact. While some may not feel comfortable reporting such activity, by working together and watching out for our neighbors, we will be able to eliminate and/or reduce these issues before they occur.

Some of the actions the Association has taken or involved in include:

Theft prevention tips were posted on the Andalucia website Home Page nine months ago. Deputy Hill has provided criminal activity information to HCSO supervisors. Citizen Patrol will begin patrolling Apollo Beach between 6 p.m. and midnight in late January. Deputy Hill has offered to present crime prevention information to the Association.

While incidents such as these are difficult to solve, many times they are solved by input from residents and others. If anyone has any information that may help solve these latest incidents they may contact:

Detective James C. Howell at 813 393-9866 or  
Deputy Jan Hill at 813 671-7791

One of the vehicles that were entered contained two firearms. As of today one of the two firearms has been recovered in the back yard of another resident. The second firearm, a two tone (black and gray) Kimber ultra tactical .45 caliber with laser grips is still unaccounted for. It should be noted that it is a felony to steal a firearm, with a possible sentence of over a year in state prison.

Sincerely,

Andalucia Board of Directors