# FACT SHEET



# Mark Your Property For Home Owners – Operation Identification

Operation Identification is a programme designed to discourage the theft of valuables from your home and elsewhere. It provides a way for the police to easily identify your stolen or lost property quickly and return it to you.

#### **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

It has been found that the very display of Operation Identification stickers on a home acts as a strong deterrent to criminals. It has also been found that, in areas in which the programme has been implemented, the crime rate against unprotected homes is noticeably higher than against homes protected by Operation Identification.

Potential thieves are deterred because they know that marked items can be positively identified by the owner. They also know that "fences", or receivers of stolen property, are reluctant to buy marked items for the same reason they are reluctant to steal them.

## **HOW DO YOU JOIN?**

To participate in Operation Identification, simply follow these step-by-step instructions:

### 1.Mark Your Property

Mark your Driver's Licence Number on all your valuable property, the more prominent the better. This is best accomplished by ordering the number engraved or otherwise permanently stenciled into your computer or electronic equipment (provided that you are certain of keeping it) at the time of purchase. Alternatively you may use an electric engraver or security pen to mark new or existing items.

(Contact your Community Liaison Officer to borrow an electric engraver, inexpensive units are available at most hardware stores.)

#### 2.Post Decals

Call your Community Liaison Officer once you have engraved your property to obtain your stickers.



# **HELPFUL HINTS**

- Don't put your stickers on your doors or windows unless you have marked your property.
- Be sure to keep a record of your property, including serial numbers, in a safe place.
- For maximum deterrence, the identification number should be non-removable, readily visible and highlighted with a fluorescent marker.
- For professional results, contact a marking service, use a small stencil or carefully hand print your number using a pencil prior to tracing it with an engraver
- Be considerate, complete your marking and return the engraver within the loan agreement time.
- Items such as clothing and fine china cannot be engraved. For these articles use a security pen.
- Have a jeweller engrave your

Driver's Licence Number on watches, rings and other small valuables. These, and items such as heirlooms may also be photographed for easy identification. Video tape may also be used to record details of rooms and the outside of your home. Close up images of valuable property and identification marks (if any) should be included.

### CRIME PREVENTION... IT'S UP TO YOU!

Take the offensive! Operation Identification is one basic step in preventing theft. Good lighting, good locks and other security precautions should also be taken to prevent crime.

Once you have engraved your property, encourage your neighbour to do the same. The greater the programme participation in your neighbourhood, the safer your property will be!

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT, PLEASE CONTACT:

PEEL REGIONAL POLICE Crime Prevention Services

> 7750 Hurontario Street Brampton, Ontario L6V 3W6

Tel. 905-453-2121 ext. 4021 Fax 905-456-6106

You may also want to examine our Internet site at:

www.peelpolice.ca

# FACT SHEET

# Mark Your Property For Business Owners – Operation Provident

Each year, our business community loses millions of dollars due to "break and enters" or theft of increasingly portable electronic or computer equipment, such as lap top computers, even while the business is open. The financial loss, inconvenience and distress caused by these crimes can be stopped.

# Help US - Help YOU!

The Peel Regional Police encourages you to reduce your risk of loss by enrolling in OPERATION PROVIDENT.

## PROGRAM GOALS

- 1.To deter thieves from stealing property by increasing risk and reducing reward.
- 2. To identify the owner of stolen property which has been recovered by the police anywhere in Canada.

The Peel Regional Police will assign your company an Operation Provident number on request and maintain a police file noting the enrolment in Operation Provident.

The number, when engraved on your valuable computer or electronic equipment, will act as a deterrent to potential thieves and aid in its return in the event that it is lost or stolen.

A warning sign and "STOP" sign decals will be issued to your business by Peel Regional Police. This will allow you to advertise your participation in the program to potential thieves.

#### TO PARTICIPATE IN OPERATION PROVIDENT, FOLLOW THESE STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

## 1.Register

#### **On-line**:

www.peelpolice.on./ crimeprevention/provident\_reg

#### By phone:

905-453-2121 Ext. 4021

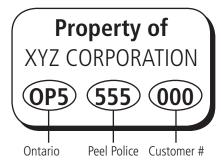
Be prepared to let us know the number of windows and doors you wish "Stop" sign warning decals for.

## 2.Specify

Have your assigned Operation Provident number permanently marked or engraved on all valuable property. This is best accomplished by requesting the manufacturer or distributor of new computer or electronic equipment to permanently etch or engrave your number on the equipment as a condition of purchase. For maximum effectiveness be sure to include your company name or logo.

#### 3.Mark

Use an electric engraver, rotary tool or permanent etching service to mark all your existing electronics and computer equipment. For the best



results contact, Crime Prevention Services.

### 4. Highlight Your Work

Draw extra attention to your number and name by highlighting the engraved area with highly visible paint.

## 5.Post warning sign &"Stop" sign decals

Peel Regional Police will issue a "Stop" sign warning sign and decals to your business free of charge. The decals should be affixed to windows and/or doors in a visible location, at vulnerable points of entry. The warning sign should be mounted in an 8 1/2" x 11" frame and hung in a highly visible location within your entrance lobby. By doing this you serve notice to potential thieves that your property is marked and easily identified by police.



Contact Crime Prevention Services at 905-453-2121 Ext. 4021, should you change your company name, address, or telephone number, so that your registration number index can be updated.

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PEEL REGIONAL POLICE Crime Prevention Services 7750 Hurontario Street Brampton, Ontario L6V 3W6

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