



Keeping Illegal Activity Out of Rental Property

Indio CFMHP Refresher Course is not a substitute training program for first time participants.

Information for Crime Free Multi-Housing Program is available at: <u>http://www.indiopd.org/cf_multi.asp</u>

To inquire about upcoming Crime Free Multi-Housing Program trainings please contact the Office of Community Safety at 760-391-4057 ext.4020 or <u>icarrillo@indiopd.org</u>



Disclaimer

- No part of this program should be regarded as legal advice
- It is not a substitute for you the owner/manager having the responsibility to become familiar with the laws and ordinances of the State of California, County of Riverside, and City of Indio.
- We urge you to consult an attorney to assist you with rental situations.



Program Goals

- Reduce crime in rental property
- Reduce the fear of crime
- Improve communication and trust
- Reduce the potential for run down properties



Program Goals

- Empower landlords
- Train them in <u>Management Skills</u> NOT <u>Police</u> Work!
- Provide support avenues including; police, fire, and other government agencies



Components of Program

Started in Mesa, AZ (1992)

Phase I: Management Training (8-Hours) taught by Police Dept.

• Crime Prevention Theory; CPTED Theory; new resident screening, lease agreement Issues, Crime Free Lease Addendum; on-going security management, monitoring criminal activity, gangs and drugs; legal warnings and evictions, working with the police, community awareness

Phase II: CPTED Property Survey by the Police

- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Survey (CPTED)
- Minimum door, window, and lock standards compliance
- Minimum exterior lighting standards compliance
- Key Control procedures evaluation
- Landscape maintenance standards compliance

Phase III: Community Awareness Training

- Community awareness and continuous participation
- Mandatory refresher course



A Partnership of all Three!

Police, Landlords and Tenants must all work together to address the problems at the location.

This is the primary objective of the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program



Crime Prevention

Criminals Are Like Weeds



- As a weed grows, it chokes out the healthy plants
- A single weed quickly overtakes an entire garden
- When criminal activity is allowed to flourish, the effect on housing is the same



Crime Prevention

- The recognition or anticipation of a crime risk, and steps taken to reduce or eliminate that risk
- A primary objective of this program!



Risk Management

The issue at hand is:

How do you deal with Risk Management? Or How do you manage a loss?



Risk Management

5 Types of Risk Management:

- Risk Avoidance
- Risk Reduction
- Risk Transference
- Risk Spreading
- Risk Acceptance





Risk Avoidance

Minimal Cost

- Take preventative steps ahead of time
- Avoid the risk completely through preparation:
 - -Lock doors
 - -Secure valuables
 - -etc..
- Probably one of the best things you can do to maximize risk avoidance is through applicant screening!



Risk Reduction (Reduce the risk)

No Measurable Cost

Reduce Risk by:

- Lock doors
- Roll up windows
- Remove valuables
- Screen applicants



Risk Transference

Spend a little money now To save a lot of money later

- Require renter to have renters insurance
- Adding updated locks/security features



Risk Spreading

No measurable cost

- Spread your risk around
- Money or valuables
- Many hiding places
- Vary your routine



Risk Acceptance

Cost nothing to do nothing

- Accept the risks
- Take your chances
- THIS IS **NOT** GOOD BUSINESS SENSE!
- Liability



Crime Prevention

Target Hardening

- Detect (criminal will have to make noise)
- Deny (make it harder to gain rewards)
- Delay (make it harder to get in to commit crime)
- Deter (all three above will make them leave and look for easier an target)



Security Enhancements

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

- Surveillance
- Access control
- Improve territoriality
- Improve activity support
- Improve lighting





Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Lighting (CFMHP Required)

Adequate lighting in parking lots, entrance ways and around dumpster areas:

- Metal Halite exterior lights
- Pressurized sodium (low and high)
- Florescent
- Spot lights

Lighting should be energy efficient, tamper-proof and break resistant



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Maintenance (CFMHP Required)

- Clean & fresh
- No graffiti
- No liter
- Etc.





Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Maintenance (CFMHP Required)

- Trim trees up
- Trim shrubs down
- Use of thorny shrubs/trees
- Lava rock/desert landscape
- Landscaping should not obscure visibility



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Optional CPTED Requirements

- Deadbolts (1" locking)
- Peepholes (180-190)
- Security strike plates with 3 inch wood screws
- Anti-Slide/Anti-Lift windows and Arcadia Doors

CPTED security enhancements goals Refresher

- The optional requirements for CPTED certification under Crime Free Multi-Housing Program are nothing more than a reasonable attempt to harden your property against crime
- Example: Security doors that work and the education of tenants to not leave them propped open



Screening Applicants

YOU SHOULD USE THE MOST THOROUGH PROCESS POSSIBLE TO SCREEN PROSPECTIVE RESIDENTS



Benefits of Applicants Screening

- Have a fair screening process
- Include an application
- Include a credit and criminal history check
- Include a rental policy (show it to prospective tenants up front)
- Follow-up on applicant references



Benefits of Applicants Screening

- 1. Screen for Credit History
- 2. Screen for Eviction History
- 3. Screen for Criminal History
- 4. Screen for Employment History
- 5. Screen for Past residence History



How Can You Predict Who Will Be A Criminal?

- Best way to predict 'Future' desire to do criminal activity
 - Look into their PAST
 - Thorough Screening
 - Proper Orientation to the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program





Screening Applicants

The <u>WORST</u> time to "screen" your residents

<u>After</u> they move in



During the eviction process!



Benefits of Applicants Screening

- The best possible tenant can be found
- The worst possible tenant might be avoided
- It can enhance the quality of life at the complex
- Can save the landlord \$\$\$\$
- Minimize *risk* to the landlord and other tenants



Benefits of Applicants Screening

- Have a fair screening process
- Include an application
- Include a credit, eviction, and criminal history check
- Include a rental policy. Show it to prospective tenants up front. NO surprises!
- Include Crime Free Multi-Housing Lease Addendum (Required)



The Rental Application

- Should Ask About Criminal History (Felonies AND also Misdemeanors)
- Plea Bargains
- Probation/Parole
- Ensure that all question are complete and accurate
- False statements of any kind should disqualify applicant



The Rental Application

The Crime Free Lease Addendum

- The backbone of the program
- It shows in black and white what is expected of the tenant. There is no confusion
- The landlord should discuss it very bluntly and make sure there is no confusion.



The Rental Application

The Crime Free Lease Addendum



- Should be presented the same way to all prospective renters
- Could be made into a poster and placed on your wall
- Must REMAIN as an Addendum



Active Property Management

If you have any legal questions that are not answered in this course it is strongly recommended that you consult with your attorney



Active Property Management

Key Point

- Be consistent-treat all your tenants the same.
- What you do for one, do for all
- It will avoid accusations later of different treatment
- **Document** what you do by having policies



Active Property Management

Complaints

-Be open to taking complaints from tenants -Stay in contact with the police

• Inspect you property frequently





Active Property Management

- Require in your lease agreement that there will be annual or semi-annual inspection
- Conduct these inspections for ALL of your tenants
- Remember to notify tenants of inspection





Combating Crime Problems

- The property manager cannot always depend so heavily on the police to solve the problem at hand
- Police, Landlords and Tenants must work together as a team in order to maintain a great quality of life



Dealing With Non Compliance

- Do your homework-Document history
- Set policies that prohibit certain behaviors (Have a strong lease)
- Don't be complacent
- Know your responsibilities



Dealing With Non Compliance

- Review the lease with your attorney
- Include a periodic inspection clause
- Inspect before they move in and before they move out
- Emphasize the crime free addendum when issuing the lease



Indio Police Department Trespassing Sign Specifications

To conform with state law regarding the posting of "No Trespassing" signs, these directions must be followed

Sign: At least (1) foot square in size and must be posted at **all entrances** to the property

Words: "Trespassing/Loitering Forbidden by Law" must appear in letters at least two (2) inches in height



Indio Police Department Trespassing Sign Specifications

Example:

Private Property

Trespassing/Loitering Forbidden by Law Violators will be prosecuted

California Penal Code 602



Indio Police Department Trespassing Sign Specifications

- Required signage must be posted at *all official entrances* (vehicle and pedestrian) to property for enforcement
- Signage should also be posted in high activity areas
- Signage must be maintained clean and visible
- *Trespassing Waiver Form* must always be current with police department
- One *Trespassing Waiver Form* is required for each posted trespassing sign

IPD Trespassing Waiver Form may be viewed and downloaded through the link provided below

http://www.indiopd.org/pdf/Trespassing_Requirements.pdf



Safety Tips

- Lock doors when working late
- Report suspicious activity
- Keep vacant units secured
- Use caution if conducting cash transactions
- Use 2-way radio or cellular phone





Safety Issues

- When Showing A Unit:
 - Require photo ID before showing unit
 - Notify another person
 - Stay near exit
 - Leave door open
 - Be aware of your surroundings



IMPORTANT CITY OF INDIO NUMBERS

All Emergencies (Police, Fire, or Ambulance) 911 **Business Licenses** 760-391-4197 City Hall 760-391-4000 Code Enforcement 760-391-4123 Fire Department (Business) 760-347-0756 Indio Police Department Main Line (24-hours) 760-391-4057 Indio Police Department Non-Emergency 760-391-4051 Indio Water Authority (Business) 760-391-4038 Graffiti Removal Hot Line 760-391-4143 Coachella Valley Crime Stoppers (Anonymous Tips) 760-341-STOP

