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**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**

**NEWS RELEASE**

Colonel James Teare, Sr.  
Chief of Police

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PIO Staff: A/Lieutenant James Fredericks  
Mr. Justin Mulcahy

Office: (410) 222-8700  
Fax: (410) 987-9087

8495 Veterans Highway  
Millersville, Md. 21108-1485

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**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC SERVICE  
ANNOUNCEMENT- TIPS FOR SAFE SUMMER TRAVEL**

The summer travel season is upon us and the Anne Arundel County Police Department is urging county residents and visitors to be as safe as possible. Every summer people prepare to visit their favorite travel destinations and vacation spots and fail to take the appropriate crime prevention measures to secure their residences back home and their belongings while traveling on the road. There are steps that can be taken to keep you and your family members safe and our department would like to take this opportunity to remind residents of the following safety tips:

**When Leaving For Vacation:**

- Arrange to have someone pick up your mail and newspapers.
- Hide your garbage cans out of plain view as empty cans give the indication that the residence is unoccupied.
- If possible, use programmable light timers for lights inside of your home to give the impression that you are inside.
- Ask a friend or neighbor to watch your home while you are away and request that they occasionally move your vehicle into different locations to give the appearance that someone is home.
- Leave a contact number with the person(s) watching your home.

**While on Vacation:**

- If staying at a hotel, make sure that your suitcases have a lock on them to secure your property.
- Label your luggage with a name and return address, preferably a business address.

- Never leave valuables out in your room while away. Either take them with you or secure them in the room safe.
- Use the peep hole on your room door to view those who request entry.
- Make sure to locate the nearest fire escapes and elevators at the hotel in case of emergencies.
- Carry a minimal amount of cash with you and try to use a credit card or traveler's checks for purchases.
- When driving to your destination, remember to keep items locked away in your trunk if possible and park your vehicle in well-lit areas with other people in the vicinity.
- Don't stop your vehicle to pick up a stranger in distress. Simply call the police and provide them with the location.

From all of us here at the Anne Arundel County Police Department, we hope you and your loved ones have a safe and enjoyable summer. Thank you.

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