



OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

The Piney-Z Neighborhood Crime Watch (NCW) strongly encourages all of our residents to participate in *Operation Identification*.

What is Operation Identification?

Operation Identification (Operation ID) is a national crime prevention program designed to protect your valuables from theft. In communities where it has been properly implemented, Operation ID has resulted in a dramatic reduction in burglaries.

Operation ID is a two-part program:

- 1) Mark your valuables with your Driver's License number so that your property can be easily traced and identified as yours.
- 2) Display a decal which warns would-be burglars that your property has been marked.



What makes Operation ID so effective?

Marked property is difficult for a burglar to re-sell because it can easily be traced to the rightful owner. If a burglar is apprehended with marked property, it is solid evidence of possession of stolen goods. Marked property is also much easier to recover should it become lost or stolen.

How do you participate?

The Piney-Z HOA has purchased two electric engravers and a supply of decals. Engravers can be borrowed by any resident on a first-come first-serve basis and are expected to be returned the following day. Upon request, you will also be given two

decals for the front and rear of your home. Free decals are limited to two per home. Additional decals may be purchased from the NCW for a nominal fee.

When marking your valuables, use your **Driver's License Number** or **Florida Identification Card Number**. Never use your Social Security Number. Begin with the "**FL**" State abbreviation followed by your full license or ID card number and end with either "**DL**" if you used your license number or "**ID**" if you used your ID card number. For example:

FL H123-321-00-123-0 DL

Engrave the number in an area that cannot be easily dismantled and which is not readily visible. Next to the serial number is usually a good location. After marking your property, make an inventory list of your valuables. Items which cannot be engraved, such as jewelry, collectibles, and artwork, should be photographed or videotaped. When taking photographs, place a ruler and your Driver's License or Florida ID Card next to each item to show size and proof of ownership. This will be of great help to both law enforcement and your insurance company. Store your inventory list, photographs and videotapes in a safe place.

Once your property has been marked and inventoried, display the Operation ID decals on doors or windows which might be used for entry. By advertising your participation in the program, a would-be burglar will often leave your property to seek an easier target.