

SECURING YOUR SAFETY

WHEN SELLING YOUR HOME



WHY IT MATTERS

With all the excitement involved in selling a home, it's easy to overlook another important matter: safety. Thefts and attacks, while not common occurrences, do happen. The following tips will help ensure the safety of your home and your family throughout the selling process:

STEPS TO SAFE SELLING EXPERIENCE

- 1 Ask your real estate agent to check visitors' identities.** Make it clear that you do not want anyone in your home whose identity has not been confirmed.
- 2 Remove or secure in a safe all items to which visitors should not have access.** This includes keys, jewelry and electronics; credit cards, cash, bills and anything featuring your social security number; weapons, such as firearms and knives; family photos or anything labeled with a name; and calendars and reminders
- 3 Be smart with open houses.** Request that all visitors sign a guest book and enter and leave through only one door. Ask the agent to accompany visitors who wish to view the garage or back yard and to make sure windows and doors remain locked.
- 4 Handle unexpected visitors with caution.** If a visitor shows up without an appointment, do not open the door under any circumstance. Kindly ask that he or she call the agent to make an appointment for another time.
- 5 Beware of any stranger claiming to be a buyer's agent.** If a person claiming to be a buyer's agent shows up unannounced, contact your agent to confirm the appointment, and then ask them to open the lockbox on your door. Only agents have access to lockboxes.

When selling your home, never allow your desire to be polite or to sell your home put you at risk. Taking a few precautionary steps will help ensure the great home-selling experience you deserve.

For more information on personal safety during the home-selling process, visit stewart.com/safety

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