

# OPERATION SECURE SITE

## Construction Site Crime Prevention Program

THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME PREVENTION OFFICE HAS PREPARED THIS BROCHURE TO ASSIST ALL UNIVERSITY CONTRACTORS IN DETERING CONSTRUCTION SITE THEFTS. THIS INFORMATION WILL ASSIST UNIVERSITY CONTRACTORS IN PLANNING, DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING AN EFFECTIVE SITE SECURITY PLAN.

Chief of Police  
*David A. Rivero*

## **GENERAL SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ✓ Enlist the support of employees in minimizing theft and vandalism. **Report all vandalism and theft** to the University of Miami Police Department immediately. Have serial numbers and information about markings on the equipment available when the responding officer arrives. Make sure there is a complete record of model and serial numbers of all equipment assigned to the project.
- ✓ If possible, remove graffiti from the job site as soon as possible. Graffiti often encourages further graffiti.
- ✓ “**No Trespassing**” signs should be prominently displayed on fencing or perimeter of the job site. Such signs discourage unauthorized intrusion onto the job site and, if correctly worded, aids in the prosecution of apprehended trespassers. “No Trespassing” signs and other warnings of danger can help protect the company from liability for possible injuries to trespassers or strangers. Consult the City of Coral Gables and the University of Miami Planning & Construction Administration for appropriate wording of warning signs. Signs should be easy to read and large enough to be seen from a distance.
- ✓ If possible have an ID program for all your employees.

## **IDENTIFYING AND MARKING ASSETS/EQUIPMENT:**

All assets on a construction site should be identified (marked), inventoried and tracked as closely as possible. Employees responsible for distribution and/or tracking must be noted along with their contact information. An identification numbering system should be developed and inventoried listings should be updated periodically.

1. All tools and equipment should be engraved or stamped with identifying marks in at least one visible place and one obscure location.
2. Paint equipment and tools in a distinctive color or have the company logo visible on all tools.
3. Employee tools should also be marked and painted (distinctively from company equipment).
4. Tool and equipment inventories should include photographs and note any distinctive marks.

*\* The recovery rate for construction equipment is as low as 10-15% because of the inability to identify stolen construction property. Clear identification can also serve as a possible deterrent to some thieves.*

## **SECURING CONSTRUCTION SITES**

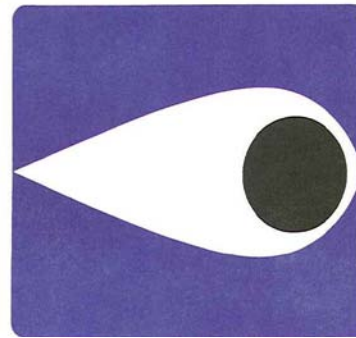
**Construction Sites assets should be secure behind barriers.** Adequate barriers will deter some potential thieves and slow down others to the point where they might abandon their efforts. The site should also be open to the view of passing public and patrolling police officers. A visible and well-lighted site will help to deter most thieves who typically do not want to be seen.

1. The site should be adequately fence and the fence should be sturdy.
2. The fence should at least be 8' high.
3. If possible, the fence should be see through, and all fences must be clear of bushes and debris that can block the view.
4. The fence should be cleared of boxes and other materials that could aid in climbing it.
5. There should be only one entrance/exit on the job site.
6. The hinge pins for the gates should be spot-welded to prevent easy removal.
7. Locking hardware should be adequate, case hardened chains and high security padlock should be permanently attached to the fence.
8. All gates should be locked at night and on weekends. If a University Police Officer finds a gate unsecured, it is subject to being locked. The assigned

University project manager is the only individual who can remove the lock.

9. Employee parking inside the site should be limited to one particular area.
10. There should be sufficient lighting on the site to illuminate such critical areas such as the office trailer(s) and the equipment/material storage area.
11. Lighting should be arranged so that it reflects onto the site and not into the eyes of a patrolling officer.
12. All light sources should be well protected.

# WARNING



UM CRIME WATCH

**Security Companies** - It may be advisable to employ the services of a bonded and insured security company either to maintain guard staff on-site or to make periodic patrols of the construction job site. An advantage of using a contract private security service is that they can be given access to patrol inside the job site as well as the perimeter.

## **NEVER HESITATE TO CONTACT UM POLICE**

**UM Police Dispatch (305) 284-6666**

UM Police Fax (305) 284-1541

UM Crime Prevention (305) 284-1105

SART Hotline (305) 798-6666

[www.miami.edu/police](http://www.miami.edu/police)



**UNIVERSITY  
OF MIAMI**



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