

REPORTING CRIME HELPS EVERYONE

The Beverly Carter Foundation, a 501c3 nonprofit organization, is dedicated to the safety of real estate professionals and those they serve by providing resources to research, information, consulting, training and support at every level of the real estate industry.

It does not matter what happened or when it happened... whether you are the victim of a physical or cyber-crime: **your safety is important.**

All crime is serious.

If anyone is in immediate danger or a crime is currently occurring, call the police at 911. You can also go to your local police station.

Reporting a crime can be hard for some people. Common reasons for not reporting crimes include fear of not being believed, insecurity, fear of getting into trouble, fear of being judged, and a fear of hurting their business as a real estate professional.

You may be worried about telling someone what happened, but there are good reasons for making a police report.

SIGNIFICANCE OF REPORTING

Reporting informs a community of crimes occurring locally; informing others of specific threats and helps law enforcement identify patterns and plan effectively to keep a community safe. It can also lead to policies at the local level to address these reported issues. Most importantly, it can create awareness in a community.

Raising awareness of the safety risks associated with the real estate industry is problematic due to limited, and oftentimes self-reported crime statistics. As a result, the justification for costs and efforts associated with building and maintaining a safety climate within the real estate industry is largely built upon isolated victimization events that are reported and leaders that have a personal safety conviction founded in an understanding of the risks associated with working alone.

Related to safety incidences, many incidents go unreported, so many agents and brokers may be falsely reassuring themselves that the worst is not going to happen.

REPORTING A CRIME

If you are a victim of a crime, please consider reporting the incident to the police.

- If you need support, you can ask someone you trust to help you contact police to make it more comfortable.
- You can get help and apply for financial assistance as a victim of crime – even if no one is charged.
- You can apply for protective order to protect yourself and your family.
- Reporting may make it possible to make an insurance claim for damaged or stolen property.
- If you report the crime, the person who committed the crime is more likely to be arrested and kept from doing the same thing to someone else.

When you report a crime to police, you can learn about options that can help make you safer.

When you report a crime, the police will listen to your story and investigate what happened. Sometimes, the information you tell them will be enough. In some cases, police need to talk to other people who may have witnessed or been involved in the crime. If the police do not have enough information or there are different versions of events, there may not be enough evidence to continue the investigation or press charges. Even if charges are not made, this does not mean the police did not believe what you told them.

ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT

Being a victim of crime can be very hard and confusing. People may tell you things that you do not understand. You might not be able to remember things. This is all normal. There are people to help you.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

When people across the United States call, text, or chat 988, they are connected to trained counselors. These trained counselors will listen, understand how their problems are affecting them, provide support, and connect them to resources if necessary.

Find local resources:

Dept of Justice OVC (Office for Victims of Crime) - STATE Links
OVC Directory of Crime Victim Services



find additional safety resources at www.BeverlyCarterFoundation.org